

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES
UNDER ARTICLE 19 OF THE CONVENTION**

**Concluding observations of the Committee against Torture
(Extracts for follow-up of CAT/C/GBR/CO/6)**

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

(...)

C. Principal subjects of concern and recommendations

(...)

Sexual abuse of children in detention

(...)

19. The State party should:

(a) **Ensure that all cases of violence, especially sexual assault, against children in detention, including those documented by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse, are promptly, impartially and effectively investigated, that substantiated allegations result in the prosecution and punishment of perpetrators with appropriate sanctions, and that victims receive adequate redress;**

(b) **Establish effective inspection and complaints mechanisms that are genuinely accessible to children in detention, and maintain effective monitoring;**

(c) **Ensure that judges, prosecutors and members of the police receive specialized training in preventing the abuse of children in detention and in dealing with claims of such abuse.**

(...)

Accountability for abuses in Iraq

(...)

33. Recalling its previous recommendation (CAT/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 16), the Committee urges the State party to take all necessary measures to establish responsibility and ensure accountability for any torture and ill-treatment committed by United Kingdom personnel in Iraq from 2003 to 2009, specifically by establishing a single, independent, public inquiry to investigate allegations of such conduct. The State party should refrain from enacting legislation that would grant amnesty or pardon where torture is concerned. It should also ensure that all victims of such torture and ill-treatment obtain redress.

(...)

Accountability for conflict-related violations in Northern Ireland

(...)

41. **Recalling its previous concluding observations (CAT/C/GBR/CO/5, para. 23), the Committee recommends that the State party should:**

(a) **In the absence of a functioning devolved government in Northern Ireland since January 2017, take urgent measures to advance and implement the Stormont House Agreement and to establish the mechanisms it contemplates for investigating conflict-related violations, particularly the historical investigations unit;**

(...)

(d) **Ensure that effective and independent investigations are conducted into outstanding allegations of torture, ill-treatment and conflict-related killings to establish the truth and identify, prosecute and punish perpetrators, including with respect to the killing of Patrick Finucane, following a recent decision by the Supreme Court that the State party has not carried out an effective investigation concerning this case;**

(e) **Undertake other initiatives, including expanding the mandate of the historical investigations unit, to address allegations of torture, sexual violence and disappearances committed during the conflict, and ensure that victims of torture and ill-treatment obtain redress, including fair and adequate compensation, and as full a rehabilitation as possible;**

(f) **Refrain from enacting amnesties or statutes of limitations for torture or ill-treatment, which the Committee has found to be inconsistent with States parties' obligations under the Convention.**

(...)

Follow-up procedure

66. **The Committee requests the State party to provide, by 17 May 2020, information on follow-up to the Committee's recommendations on the sexual abuse of children in detention (para. 19), accountability for any torture and ill-treatment committed by United Kingdom personnel in Iraq from 2003 to 2009 (para. 33) and accountability for conflict-related violations in Northern Ireland (para. 41 (a) and (d)–(f)). In that context, the State party is invited to inform the Committee about its plans for implementing, within the coming reporting period, some or all of the remaining recommendations in the concluding observations.**