



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
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Excellency,

I wish to inform you that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in the course of its 94<sup>th</sup> session, considered the follow-up report submitted by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, pursuant to Article 9 (1) of the Convention, and Rule 65 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

The Committee welcomes the submission of the report, in response to its request to receive information within one year on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 16 (a) and 16 (e), 19, and 31 of the Concluding Observations (CERD/C/GBR/CO/21-23), adopted following the consideration of the State party's combined 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> periodic reports, at its 90<sup>th</sup> session held in August 2016.

The Committee appreciates the opportunity provided to continue its dialogue with the State party, and would like to draw the State party's attention to the observations mentioned below. The Committee requests that comments and responses on actions taken by the State party on these issues be included in its 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> periodic reports to be submitted in a single document by 6 April 2020.

**Paragraph 16 (a) and (e) of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee welcomes the detailed information provided by the State party on the implementation of its recommendations, and encourages the State party to pursue its efforts with regards to part (a) of the recommendation. The Committee would nevertheless be interested in receiving further information regarding the content of the State party's hate crime action plans and their implementation across different devolved jurisdictions, which the Committee notes, show a wide variance. While appreciating the measures taken by the State party on reporting of hate crimes, the Committee remains concerned about the underreporting of these offences and about the gap between complaints and convictions. The Committee requests the State party to provide an update on the measures taken to ensure proper reporting, as well as additional data on the outcome of related complaints. The Committee further requests the State party to provide more information in its next periodic report on progress achieved in the review of hate crime legislation throughout its territories.

His Excellency Mr. Julian Braithwaite  
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Northern Ireland to the United Nations Office  
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In relation to part (e) of the recommendation, while noting the measures taken by the State party, the Committee would like to receive additional information on the results of the measures taken to ensure that the present legislation is fully implemented and racist hate speech thoroughly investigated and punished in accordance with article 4 of the Convention and in line with General Recommendation 35 on Combating Hate Speech. The Committee further requests information on how effectively media regulatory bodies address the issue of racist hate speech function.

**Paragraph 19 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee thanks the State party for the information provided. It however regrets that its recommendation remains largely unimplemented. It therefore requests that the State party submit information in its next periodic report on measures taken to implement this recommendation. In particular, the Committee requests an update on any review of its anti-terrorism legislation and its counter-terrorism strategy and the impact of the measures taken on the situation of ethnic and ethno-religious groups protected by the Convention.

**Paragraph 31 of the Concluding Observations:** The Committee welcomes the measures taken by the State party to ensure availability and accessibility of quality health-care services to persons belonging to ethnic minorities. The Committee would appreciate further information on tangible results and impact of the adopted measures. While noting the measures taken to address the overrepresentation of Afro-Caribbean descent in psychiatric institutions and the disproportionate use of restraint, seclusion and medication, the Committee did not receive information on the outcome of these measures. The Committee requests the State party to provide information on whether adequate funding is allocated to mental health services and whether an ethnic perspective is incorporated in the design, implementation and evaluation of mental health policies and legislation, and to that end inform if any legislative or institutional amendments are envisaged in order to redress the situation.

Rest assured, Excellency, that the Committee looks forward to continuing its constructive dialogue with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, with a view to providing it with assistance in its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Anastasia Crickley  
Chair

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination