



UK Mission to the
United Nations
in Geneva

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UK National Statement - Universal Periodic Review of Germany

Since the last UPR, the UK commends the German government for strengthening its consultation with civil society groups on a broad range of Human Rights issues. We welcome Germany's decision to sign the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.

The UK is concerned about reports that institutional racism may have contributed to the failings of German security services to effectively investigate a series of murders committed by the extremist National Socialist Underground group. The UK urges Germany to develop a comprehensive strategy to combat racial discrimination, which is streamlined across Federal, State and local levels, and is based on a broader understanding of racism, to include indirect, structural and institutional discrimination. We also call on Germany to evaluate, and where necessary amend, its existing legislation and regulations to ensure equal treatment by police and the prosecution of crimes where a racial motive is suspected.

The UK has two recommendations:

- 1) That Federal and State Governments, in consultation with civil society, broaden and intensify existing Human Rights training in schools, as well as the routine training of police, security, prison and health personnel; and set up a monitoring and evaluation mechanism to assess progress.
- 2) That Germany ensures full implementation of its obligations under the Optional Protocol against Torture (OPCAT) by equipping its National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) with sufficient resources to fulfil its role.

Thank you.

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