



UK Mission to the
United Nations
in Geneva

CHECK AGAINST
DELIVERY

53

United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland Statement

Universal Periodic Review – Iraq November 2014

Thank you, Mr President.

The UK thanks the Government of Iraq for its participation in the UPR and for their detailed national report.

We welcome Iraq's progress on healthcare, education and the rights of persons with disabilities, but note with concern that the human rights situation has deteriorated since 2010.

This is partly due to the barbaric advance of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). We must remember, however, that the failure of previous administrations to govern inclusively and protect human rights contributed to ISIL's rise.

We welcome, therefore, Prime Minister al-Abadi's commitments to inclusivity, protect Iraqi citizens, and hold those responsible for human rights violations and abuses to account, and urge that these are translated into action.

We recommend that Iraq:

1. Ensures the equitable treatment of all people through an improved justice system and increased respect for human rights within the police and security forces, including the ratification of OPCAT.
2. Establishes a moratorium on executions and moves towards abolishing the death penalty.

Ambassador Mark Matthews.