



UK Mission to the
United Nations
in Geneva

**United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland
National Statement**

**Universal Periodic Review – Libya
May 2015**

The UK welcomes Libya's constructive engagement with the Council and participation today.

We have two recommendations:

1. Ensure all human rights violations, including assassinations of journalists and human rights defenders, are investigated and the perpetrators brought to justice.
2. Improve the rights of women, ensuring their full, equal and effective participation in conflict resolution and decision-making, including the Constitution Drafting process; and tackling sexual violence, bringing perpetrators to justice.

The UK is gravely concerned by the conflict and armed groups on all sides acting with impunity. The lawlessness in Libya also supports those involved in the illegal smuggling and trafficking of people.

The UK is concerned by the suffering of the displaced and reports of arbitrary detentions, torture and the retention of the death penalty. We are alarmed by decreasing civil society space, together with religious decrees and legislation that restrict women's rights. ISIL's rise and brutality is a serious threat to all Libyans and the region. We acknowledge the challenges Libya faces and urge progress in the UN peace talks.

Finally, the UK calls on the Constitutional Drafting Assembly to ensure a rights-based constitution that guarantees equal rights for men and women, independence of the judiciary and freedom of expression and association.