

UN Human Rights Council 44: Interactive Dialogue with the SR on Contemporary Forms of Racism

Thank you, Madame President.

There is no place in society for racism. The British Government is committed to combatting all forms of racism, both at home and abroad; and to promoting respect, which is the foundation of community cohesion.

Internationally, we believe that one of the most effective ways to tackle injustices and advocate for respect amongst different ethnic groups is to encourage countries to uphold their human rights obligations, particularly through institutions such as the United Nations.

The UK is firmly committed to participating actively with those UN mechanisms – like yours – that can make a real difference on racism, as well as speaking out against instances of racism, prejudice and hatred.

At home, we have made great strides towards becoming a fairer and more inclusive society, but we have further to go. The Prime Minister recently announced a new commission to look at inequality in the UK, demonstrating our commitment to doing more to address this issue.

Madame President, this year, we have all witnessed a global movement calling for racial equality. How can we make better use of existing mechanisms to listen and engage in conversations about racism and equality?

Many members of the international community have re-affirmed their pledges to tackling racism. But how can we learn from one another's efforts, to ensure best practice is shared internationally?

Thank you.