

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW: FOURTH CYCLE, UNITED KINGDOM

Submissions from Humanists UK, March 2022

APPENDIX: FULL LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS

1. OHCHR recommends the UK Government drops plans to weaken sections 3 and 6 of the Human Rights Act.
2. OHCHR recommends that the governments of the UK remove the power of state-funded religious schools to discriminate on grounds of religion in teacher recruitment and promotion
3. OHCHR recommends that the governments of the UK remove the power of state-funded religious schools to discriminate on grounds of religion in their employment practices, including recruitment, promotion, and dismissal.
4. OHCHR recommends that the UK Government and the Northern Ireland Government introduce Beliefs and Values education to replace statutory religious education with a curriculum that is fully inclusive of non-religious worldviews, including humanism.
5. OHCHR recommends that the governments of the UK remove the requirement for compulsory religious worship in state-funded schools, replacing it with fully inclusive assemblies appropriate for all.
6. OHCHR recommends that the UK Government and Northern Ireland Government abolish the power of parents in England and Northern Ireland to remove their children from RSE prior to their 16th birthdays, and also remove the power of faith schools to teach RSE only in line with their religious beliefs.
7. OHCHR to recommend that the UK Government revise section 6 of the HRA to ensure that the definition of a public authority is extended to include all organisations carrying out any function on behalf of a public authority under contract, notwithstanding any exemptions from the provisions of the Equality Act.
8. OHCHR recommends the UK Government legalise assisted dying for the terminally ill and incurably suffering.
9. OHCHR to recommend that the UK Government legally recognise humanist marriages in England and Wales without further delay.
10. OHCHR to include a recommendation to abolish the common law offences of blasphemy and blasphemous libel in Northern Ireland.

