

FACTSHEET 7

The UPR, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and other UN mechanisms

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- The SDGs are a set of 17 global goals set out by the UN General Assembly in 2015, to be achieved by 2030.
- Each goal has a set of targets and indicators (see <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>) which help determine progress.
- The UK Government has signalled its commitment to the SDGs and has a website dedicated to sharing data on progress toward their fulfilment: <https://sdgdata.gov.uk/>.



The Treaty Bodies and Special Procedures

- Treaty bodies are expert committees that monitor compliance with the core UN human rights treaties. Like the UPR, each treaty body has a monitoring cycle. As a party to seven of the nine core treaties, the UK will be periodically examined by their respective treaty bodies and will receive 'concluding observations'.
- Special procedures are independent experts appointed to examine specific countries or human rights themes. They carry out country visits and produce reports and recommendations. The UK's last visits were in 2018 by the special rapporteurs on extreme poverty and human rights; and contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.
- Though the findings of these bodies have often sparked resistance by the UK Government, it still maintains its commitment to these processes.



Integrating the UPR, SDGs, and other UN Mechanisms

- The UPR, SDGs, and other UN mechanisms all contribute to the fulfilment of human rights. Because of the commitment the UK has signalled to the UPR, SDGs, and other UN mechanisms, taking an integrated approach to advocacy may prove more valuable than focusing on just one of these.
- When carrying out advocacy on the UPR's recommendations, refer to their related SDGs, concluding observations of treaty bodies and Special Procedure recommendations. These can be found by:
 - Searching the EHRC's Tracker (<https://humanrightstracker.com/en/>): The Tracker links the UK's UPR recommendations, concluding observations, and the SDGs.
 - Using the UN Human Rights Index (<https://uhri.ohchr.org/en/search-human-rights-recommendations>): This will allow you to find and read through the UK's Special Procedure reports.



'The UK remains fully committed to the UPR and the UN treaty reporting system as well as to promoting human rights internationally.'

UK Fourth Cycle UPR National Report

