

Today...

An open letter on Human Rights Day.

Dear Party Leaders,

As we approach the 2019 General Election we ask you to join us in celebrating Human Rights Day by committing to protecting universal human rights in the UK.

Human rights, as universal standards shared across the globe, were laid down 71 years ago in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, inspiring law and positive action across the world. Our very own law, the Human Rights Act, draws on these universal rights, setting legal standards to protect people across the UK whether they are in hospitals or care homes, social services or places of detention, housing or schools.

Whatever the outcome of Thursday's election, 2020 will be an important year for the UK. Many decisions will need to be made about what sort of country we want to be, going forward, and what relationship people have with those we place in power.

We ask you to stand firm on our hard-won freedoms. We ask you to stand firm on ensuring that our Human Rights Act remains an integral part not just of our constitutional arrangements, but also of people's everyday lives, enabling us all to live with equal dignity and respect.

Yours sincerely,

The British Institute of Human Rights
bihr.org.uk



The
British Institute of
Human Rights; Action
on Elder Abuse; AdviceUK;
Advocacy Focus; Age Connects
Cardiff and the Vale; All Wales People
First; Alzheimer Scotland; Amnesty
International UK; Article 12 in Scotland;
Article 39; Asylum Link Merseyside;
AVA (Against Violence and Abuse); Bexley
Accessible Transport Scheme; BHA for Equality;
Birthrights; Bristol Mind; British Institute of
Learning Disabilities (BILD); Campaign for Freedom
of Information; Carers UK; Centre for Women's
Justice; Changing Our Lives; Children in Scotland;
Children in Wales; Children's Commissioner for Wales;
Children's Rights Alliance for England; City Law School;
Clynyfw Care Farm; Coalition for Racial Equality
and Rights; Committee on the Administration of
Justice; Coram; Disability Rights UK; Disability Wales;
English PEN; Fair Trials; Fairness, Respect, Equality
Shropshire (FRESH) Ltd; Family Rights Group; Forces
Watch; Freedom from Torture; Friends, Families
and Travellers; Global Initiative to End All Corporal
Punishment of Children; Health and Social Care
Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE); Helen Bamber
Foundation; HIV Scotland; Humanists UK; INQUEST;
International Bar Association Human Rights Institute;
Just for Kids Law; JUSTICE; Law Centres Network;
Learning Disability England; Legal Aid Practitioners Group;
LGBT Foundation; Liberty; Mary Ward Legal Centre; Medical
Justice; Mencap Liverpool & Sefton; Migrants Organise; Mind;
nlcompass Northwest; National Aids Trust; National Union
of Students (NUS); NDTi; nia; Older People's Commissioner for
Wales; Prison Reform Trust; Public Law Project; Quakers in Britain;
Race on the Agenda; RAMFEL (Refugee & Migrant Forum of
Essex and London); RAY (Refugee Action York); Refugee
Council; Rene Cassin; Reporters Without Borders;
Restorative Justice for All; Rights of Women; RightsInfo;
Rights Watch (UK); Runnymede Trust; Scottish Legal Action
Group; SCVO Shared Lives Plus; SMK Law Solicitors;
Southall Black Sisters; Sue Ryder; Suffolk Law Centre;
Tai Pawb; The AIRE Centre; The Howard League for
Penal Reform; The IARS International Institute; Together-
Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights; Tower Hamlets
Law Centre; UKLGIG; United Kingdom Homecare
Association; University of Roehampton; Unlock
Democracy; Welsh Women's Aid; West Norfolk Disability
information Service (WNDiS); Wish: A voice for women's
mental health; Women's Resource Centre; York Human
Rights City Network; Yorkshire MESMAC Group of
Services; Young Legal
Aid Lawyers (YLAL);
Youth Access