United Kingdom

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POSITION OF UNITED KINGDOM REGARDING RIGHTS OF WOMEN IN THE DRC

General information

Although the United Kingdom has had some famous queens in their history, women had no voting rights for most of its existence. In 1918 and 1928 this was changed, giving men and women equal voting rights. Today the country supports women's rights and has improved the situation of women a lot. There are laws to promote and enforce gender equality. However, there is still room for improvement, for example in the area of unpaid care work and housework, which women perform to a much greater extent than men.

Position on the matter

The UK is engaged in many countries to support women's rights, by supporting NGOs and working together with governments. In the DRC the UK supports the government with their Women Peace Security National Action Plan. Through £16 Million for a bilateral peace and stability program they support women's leadership in peace structures and support law enforcement which includes sexual and gender based violence (SGBV). The UK especially condemns the rising amount of SGBV in the eastern DRC, committed by all conflict parties.

Proposed solutions

The UK sees the conflict in east DRC as one of the major causes of SGBV. Condemning this and motivating the conflict parties to protect women's rights might be a part of a resolution. Further women should be included through leading positions in peace projects and discussions. The victims of SGBV should be supported. The work of NGOs should get support and legitimisation in a resolution.

Potential Blocks

In general western countries that are engaged in women's rights are potential allies. Countries that have other priorities or don't care about women's rights might be opposing factions.

Read More

- UK - UN Women
- Women's suffrage in UK
- UN Human Rights Council 62: UK Statement for the Enhanced Interactive Dialogue on the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Women, Peace and Security National Action Plan, report to Parliament 2024 to 2025
- UN HRC Special Session: Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Universal Periodic Review 47: UK Statement on the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- UN Human Rights Council 62: UK Statement for the Enhanced Interactive Dialogue on the Democratic Republic of the Congo

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