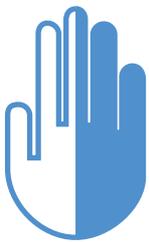


Suggested questions

Advocating British support for the UN and an active role for the UK in international fora are ongoing priorities for UNA-UK.

Below are some sample questions to put to parliamentary candidates. They are grouped thematically accordingly to our manifesto and are also intended to shed light on UNA-UK's position. We hope that these suggestions will serve to inspire your own ideas and to put a local angle on these issues.

The full manifesto is available at www.una.org.uk/manifesto.



A comprehensive strategy to prevent mass atrocities

1. As a permanent member of the UN Security Council, the UK has an important role to play in shaping the international response to mass atrocities such as war crimes and genocide. How do you think the UK could better fulfil this responsibility?
2. Does the UK have a responsibility to take action to protect civilians and prevent atrocities and what form should this take? In which situations should the UK intervene beyond diplomacy, for example, through sanctions or military intervention?



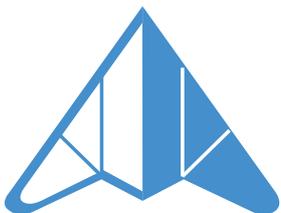
More intensive engagement to strengthen UN peacekeeping

1. UN peacekeepers play a vital role in maintaining international peace and security. Can and should the UK do more to support UN peacekeeping? And if so, what kind of support do you think the UK is best placed to provide? Should the UK retain forces earmarked for peacekeeping?
2. Which countries struggling with conflict do you believe could benefit from more peacekeeping forces provided by the UK?



A clear pathway to eradicate nuclear weapons

1. Is the UK doing enough to curb the proliferation of nuclear weapons and support international disarmament efforts? What more could it do?
2. The future of Trident is due to be decided in 2016. What is your position on the UK's current nuclear programme? Is a deterrent that nobody seriously believes will be used still relevant, especially considering the nature of security threats, such as terrorism, facing the UK today?



Robust policies to control arms, drones and 'killer robots'

1. The UK has ratified the Arms Trade Treaty, which regulates the global trade in arms that kill hundreds of thousands of people around the world each year. What can the UK do to ensure that it does not export arms to countries with poor human rights records?
2. The UN expert leading a drones investigation has said that the UK-US intelligence relationship is so close that UK complicity in US drone strikes is "inevitable". How do you think the UK could be more transparent about its policy on drones, and what more could it do to minimise civilian casualties?
3. States including the UK have committed to UN discussions on the threats posed by autonomous weapons – so-called killer robots. What is your position on UK development of these weapons, such as the Taranis?

FREEDOM



Leadership to protect human rights internationally

1. The UK has a seat on the UN Human Rights Council until the end of 2016. Which issues should it prioritise and what contribution can the UK itself make in these areas?
2. A vital part of the UN's human rights work is gathering evidence from civil society, including in the UK. What actions can the UK take to ensure that these voices are heard at the UN and listened to in the UK?



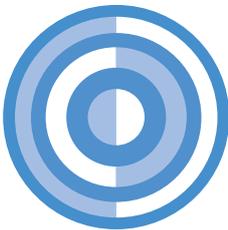
A strong commitment to safeguard human rights at home

1. Human rights laws provide crucial protection for the UK's most vulnerable people and are a vital way of holding the state to account. How will you ensure these protections are strengthened for the benefit of all people in the UK?
2. The majority of the UN's recommendations for improving human rights in the UK fall under the remit of Parliament. However, many Parliamentarians are not aware of them. How would you improve Parliamentary oversight of the UK's obligations under the UN human rights system?



A bold plan to advance gender equality and women's empowerment

1. The Government reviewed its progress on gender equality ahead of a major UN conference on women's rights, and found that gender discrimination is still prevalent here. What would you do to remove the remaining obstacles to gender equality in the UK?
2. The UK has recently taken a strong lead internationally on the issue of sexual violence in conflict. What one issue would you like to see the UK champion to support women and girls around the world?



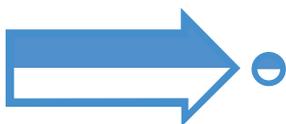
Concerted action to promote progressive new development goals

1. According to the UN, just over 1 billion people live on under £1 a day. As the UN prepares to adopt new global development goals, what can the UK do to ensure they are truly transformative?
2. The UK was the first G7 country to reach the international target of spending 0.7% GNI on aid. This is a great achievement but one that attracted some concern at home given cuts to domestic programmes. What can the UK do to ensure that its aid reaches those most in need and that the public sees aid as an investment in this country's own security and prosperity? How should the UK prioritise its spending?



A vigorous drive to secure the climate deal we need

1. Following the draft agreement reached at the UN climate conference last year, how can the UK work towards securing a robust global climate deal at the UN climate meeting in Paris this December?
2. What sustainable policies can the UK implement at a national level to help combat climate change?
3. Do you believe that as a developed country, the UK has a duty to support developing countries in reducing their carbon emissions? If so, what form should this support take?



Support to enhance the UN's effectiveness by improving its leadership selection

1. The selection process for the UN Secretary-General, one of the world's most important jobs, is horribly opaque. There is no formal job description or scrutiny of candidates. The UN Security Council puts forward a single name for the rest of the UN's membership to rubberstamp. Do you believe that the UK should commit to improving this process? How could Parliament and the public be involved?
2. UNA-UK is part of a global campaign to improve the selection process for top UN appointments. These people are responsible for the well-being of millions of people around the world. What can the UK do to ensure better quality candidates?