



UK action.
Stronger UN.
Better world.

Dear Prof. Dr. Kabas Krasnici, PhD (Universal Association of Professional Colleges and Universities) ,

In just under six weeks the current UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussain, is due to step down. We've been busy campaigning hard to help find the best person to replace him and monitoring and reporting on the process as it unfolds.

Here's a roundup of the latest developments in the process to find the UN's next human rights chief, plus other important updates.

Spotlight on human rights

Our [campaign hub](#) has a host of resources on the appointment, including our latest interview with former High Commissioner Mary Robinson who [spoke candidly](#) about the difficulties of the job, including handling issues such as Israel-Palestine and the 'war on terror', and why she thinks a High Commissioner is better off only serving one term. Find out more [here](#).

We've also launched a [timer](#) and a "[transparency checklist](#)" to monitor the appointment process - if it isn't completed in the next five days, the next human rights chief will have an unprecedentedly short lead-in time before starting their role!

Parliamentary work

We're delighted to announce that there has been a cross party commitment to UN peacekeeping. The Shadow Secretary of State for Defence Nia Griffith MP committed a future Labour government to increasing the UK's contribution to UN Peacekeeping. UNA-UK has been calling for the UK to increase its contribution for some time and is pleased to see that the government has also engaged strongly with this agenda. [Find out more](#).

Last month, UNA-UK's Executive Director was invited to brief parliament on sexual exploitation and abuse in the aid sector. You can [read our evidence here](#) which looks at the lessons UN peacekeeping has learned and needs to learn, and which of these lessons could be applied to the broader aid sector. [Find out more about our work in parliament](#).

UNA-UK's movement

UNA-UK brought together over 100 of UNA-UK's activists to share their ideas on how to urge the UK to live up to its 'global Britain' potential. With help from campaigner Jeremy Gilley - founder of Peace One Day - and policy experts, participants generated campaign plans on how to shape a 'global Britain' and got equipped to take action in their local communities. [Here's the campaign ideas generated on the day](#).

Other important news

Our Executive Director joined the Global Challenges Foundation in Sweden to discuss how we can tackle the most critical global risks including weapons of mass destruction, climate change and technological innovations such as AI. [Take a look at what was said](#).

UNA-UK is sad to announce the passing of former UNA-UK Director Frank Field, who devoted more than 50 years to the principles of the United Nations, during which he had a profound impact on the organisation itself, and on civil society in the UK, including our own people's movement for the UN. We published an [obituary](#) celebrating his life and work.

Kind regards,
Laurel & the UNA-UK team

United Nations Association - UK
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