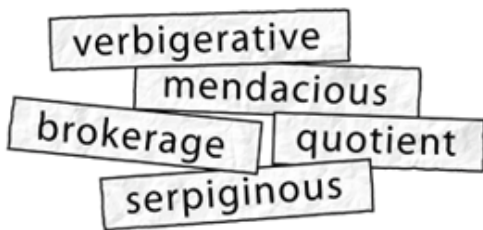




# Human Rights Day Letter



Some of the words in this letter are long and hard to understand.



If a word is in **bold**, it means you can look it up in the 'hard words' section.



## Hard words

**UDHR:** Universal Declaration of Human Rights. A document signed by 192 countries, including the UK, saying they will protect human rights.

**ECHR:** European Convention of Human Rights. A law agreed by 46 countries, including the UK, saying what rights we have and that we can take the government to court if they do not look after them.



Dear Prime  
Minister and  
political leaders,



Today is Human  
Rights Day.



In 1948, countries  
all over the world  
signed the  
Universal  
Declaration of  
Human Rights  
(**UDHR**).



Human rights are for all of us, all the time, because we are all people.



The **UDHR** inspired the European Convention on Human Rights (**ECHR**).



The **ECHR** was made part of UK law by the Human Rights Act.



This means people can make sure their human rights are protected through UK courts.



This year, we are also celebrating that the Rights Removal Bill was not passed by the UK Government.



This Bill would have taken away human rights protections in the UK.



People all across the UK came together to speak up against the Bill.



Eleanor Roosevelt, one of the people who wrote the **UDHR**, said human rights start in the “small places close to home”.



This means that even though human rights are a big idea, they need to help even in the villages or towns where we all live.



There is lots of work still to be done to protect human rights across the UK.



We are asking politicians to use their words and actions to help protect human rights for everyone in the UK.



The organisations that signed this letter are:



UNLOCK DEMOCRACY

FREEZE  
for a responsible, fair and sustainable food system

SEEAC SOUTHEAST AND EAST ASIAN CENTRE

The PILS Project  
Public Interest Litigation Support

RUNNYMEDE

The Challenging Behaviour Foundation



BGS  
British Geriatrics Society  
Improving healthcare for older people

NDTi  
National Foundation Forum for Inclusion

Comistynydd Pobl Hyn Cymru  
Older People's Commissioner for Wales

asa access social care

TURNING POINT  
Inspired by possibility

FJSS GROUP

Pob yn Cymru Dafydd  
All Wales People's Voice

ARC England

NCF  
THE NATIONAL CARE FORUM

carersUK

CONFIDENTIAL  
Campaign for Freedom of Information

Friends of the Earth

ALLIANCE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE  
ALLIANCE SCOTLAND  
PEOPLE AT THE CENTRE

MyLife MyChoice

C-CHANGE  
SUPPORTING GOOD LIVES

Cloverleaf Advocacy

THE JOINT COUNCIL OF THE WELFARE OF IMMIGRANTS

WELSH REFUGEE COUNCIL  
CYNGOR FFOADRUIAD CYMRU

EACH OTHER

Children's Rights Alliance for England  
Part of Just for Kids Law

Care Rights UK

ENGLISH PEN

Choice Support

WISH  
Working together

include.org

Changing Our Lives

Release  
Drugs, The Law & Your Rights

RIGHTS OF WOMEN  
helping women through the law

EQUAL RIGHTS TRUST

Inclusion London  
Supporting London's Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations

EQUALITY OURS  
Equality and human rights for us all

Scottish Care  
Voice of the independent care sector

rené cassin  
the jewish voice for human rights

ecpat UK  
Every Child Protected Against Trafficking

END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

BPW5  
Business and Professional Women UK

CRER  
coalition for racial equality and rights

sussexinterpretingservices

Praxis  
for migrants and refugees

FREEDOM FROM TORTURE  
EMPOWERING SURVIVORS REBUILDING LIVES

ForcesWatch

Howard League for Penal Reform

Rightful Lives

SCVO

Human Rights Consortium Scotland

SCLD

HELEN BAMBER FOUNDATION  
strength to fly

Hourglass  
Safer ageing - Stopping abuse  
0808 808 8141

inclusion north

Yorkshire MESMAC

Humanists UK

LA WRs  
LATV AMERICAN WOMEN RIGHTS SOCIETY

Kinship

UNISON  
the public service union

The JUDITH Trust

Law Centres Network

JUNO Women's Aid  
Safety. Support. Strength.

LDE  
Learning Disability England

Leigh Day

BASW  
The professional association for social work and social workers

In aid of  
PARKINSON'S UK  
CHANGE ATTITUDES. FIND A CURE. JOIN US.

LIBERTY

Clynfyw

Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance

Quintess

ROO IRWIN SWEENEY

Mothers UNION  
Christian care for families

Detention Action

SMIK LAW SOLICITORS

Law Society of Scotland

VoiceAbility

Sanchita Hosali, CEO at British Institute of Human Rights  
Lucy Peake, CEO at Kinship  
Jonathan Senker, Chief Executive at VoiceAbility  
Kari Gerstheimer, CEO at Access Social Care  
Charlie McMillan , Chief Executive at Scottish Commission for People with Learning Disabilities  
Tom Doyle, CEO at Yorkshire MESMAC  
Jayne Leeson, CEO at Changing Our Lives  
Rosalind Stevens, Project Manager at Civil Society Alliance  
Vivien Cooper, CEO at The Challenging Behaviour Foundation  
Richard Robinson, CEO at Hourglass  
Mia Hasenson-Gross, Executive Director at René Cassin, the Jewish voice for human rights  
Shoaib M Khan, Human Rights Lawyer at SMK Law Solicitors  
Tom Brake, Director at Unlock Democracy  
Annette Lawson, Chair at The Judith Trust  
Sam Smith, CEO at C-Change Scotland  
Lorraine Keown, Chair of the Human Rights and Equality Committee at The Law Society of Northern Ireland  
Mhairi Snowden, Director at Human Rights Consortium Scotland  
Kerry Smith, CEO at Helen Bamber Foundation  
Christina McAnea, General Secretary at UNISON  
Dr Donald Macaskill , Chief Executive Officer at Scottish Care  
Sarah Maguire, Chief Executive Officer at Choice Support  
Sara Redmond, Chief Officer of Development at Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE)  
Julie Bishop, Director at Law Centres Network  
Karen Parry, Chief Executive at Inclusion North  
Louise King , Directorat Children's Rights Alliance for England, part of Just for Kids Law  
Deniz Ugur, Deputy Director at End Violence Against Women Coalition  
Anna Fowlie, Chief Executiveat Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations  
Juliet Tizzard, Director of External Relations at Parkinson's UK  
Vic Rayner, CEO at National Care Forum  
Luke Starr, Coordinator at ForcesWatch  
Joanne Kinsey, President at Business & Professional women UK  
Helen Walker, Chief Executive at Carers UK  
Hugh Knowles and Miriam Turner, Co-Executive Directors at Friends of the Earth (England, Wales and Northern Ireland)  
Scott Watkin and Jack Marshall, Members Representative Body, Co-Chairs at Learning Disability England  
Dr Shabna Begum and Laurence Jay, Interim co-CEOs at Runnymede Trust  
Heléna Herklots CBE, Older People's Commissioner for Wales at Older People's Commissioner for Wales

Bev Jullien, CEO at Mothers' Union  
Svetlana Kotova, Director of Campaigns and Justice at Inclusion London  
Gisela Valle, Executive Director at Latin American Women's Rights Service  
Helen Wildbore, Director at Care Rights UK  
Suzi Henderson, CEO at Cloverleaf Advocacy 2000 Ltd  
Niamh Eastwood, Executive Director at Release  
Joe Powell, Chief Executive at All Wales People First  
Andrea Simon, Director at End Violence Against Women Coalition (EVAW)  
Sally Richens, Executive Director at National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi)  
Joyce Kallevik, Director at WISH  
Jamie Beagent, Partner and Joint Head of Human Rights at Leigh Day  
Yasmin Rehman, CEO at Juno Women's Aid  
Maurice Frankel, Director at Campaign for Freedom of Information  
Estelle du Boulay, Director at Rights of Women  
Emma Guy, Editor in Chief at EachOther  
Patricia Durr, CEO at ECPAT UK (Every Child Protected Against Trafficking)  
Jim Bowen, Director at Clynyfw Care Farm  
Sally Daghlian, CEO at Praxis  
Andrea Cleaver, CEO at Welsh Refugee Council  
Jim Fitzgerald, Director at Equal Rights Trust  
Julie Newcombe, Co-founder at Rightful Lives  
Sonya Sceats, Chief Executive at Freedom from Torture  
Sarah Mistry, CEO at British Geriatrics Society  
Maria McCloskey, Director at The Public Interest Litigation Support (PILS) Project  
Andrea Coomber KC (Hon), Chief Executive at The Howard League for Penal Reform  
Arran Evans, Director at Sussex Interpreting Services  
Alix Lewer, CEO at The Include Project  
Clare Moody, Co-CEO at Equally Ours  
Dr Ruth Allen, Chief Executive at British Association of Social Workers (BASW)  
Mariko Hayashi, Executive Director at Southeast and East Asian Centre (SEEAC)  
Suzanne Swinton, CEO at Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance  
Andrew Copson, Chief Executive at Humanists UK  
Alexandra Lopoukhine, Interim Executive Director at The Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI)  
Akiko Hart, Interim Director at Liberty  
Daniel Gorman, Director at English PEN  
Jatin Haria, Executive Director at Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights (CRER)  
Silence Chihuri at Fair Justice System Scotland  
Ady Roy and Ben McCay, Charity Co-Chairs at My Life My Choice  
Annie-Marie Irwin, Partner and Joint Head of Human Rights at Rook Irwin Sweeney LLP  
Julie Bass, Chief Executive at Turning Point at Turning Point  
Clive Parry, Director at Association for Real Change  
Leonie Nimmo, Executive Director at GM Freeze  
Paul Parker, Recording Clerk at Quakers in Britain  
James Wilson, Director at Detention Action  
Diane McGiffen, Chief Executive of Law Society of Scotland