



## Joint Committee on Human Rights

**Addressed to Chris Elmore MP**  
**Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office**  
**[Delivered by email]**

26 February 2026

### **Annual Human Rights and Democracy Report**

Dear Minister Elmore,

Dame Emily Thornberry, as Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee, recently drew to your attention that no annual Human Rights and Democracy Report has been published since the current government was formed. I echo her concerns and thank her for raising them with your Department. The publication of such reports not only enables parliamentarians to conduct proper scrutiny, but also signals that government is serious about human rights issues both domestically and globally.

The near three-year hiatus in publication has coincided with a number of significant challenges for international human rights. Human rights also face a host of emerging and complex issues that the Joint Committee on Human Rights has been considering, such as in our recent inquiries into and reports on 'Accountability for Daesh crimes' and 'Transnational Repression'.

The Department should reaffirm its commitment to human rights standards by publishing its report, or inform the Committee if its practices have changed, as Dame Emily has stated.

Yours Sincerely

**Lord Alton of Liverpool**  
Chair, Joint Committee on Human Rights

CC'd  
Dame Emily Thornberry MP, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee