

UN Human Rights Council 61: UK Statement for the Interactive Dialogue on Mali

26.3.2026 - | Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

UK Statement for the Item 10 Interactive Dialogue with the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali. Delivered at the 61st Human Rights Council in Geneva.

Thank you, Mr Vice President,

The United Kingdom welcomes Mali's continued engagement with the Human Rights Council and the mandate of the Independent Expert. Respect for human rights, justice and accountability is fundamental to achieving lasting security and stability, and we urge the government of Mali to maintain their engagement with the Independent Expert.

The human rights situation remains concerning. We are troubled by ongoing reports of violations and abuses affecting civilians, including women and children. As the Independent Expert notes, armed opposition groups violate international humanitarian law with impunity. Restrictions on civic space, the detention of opposition figures and journalists, and limitations on political participation are also of concern.

The United Kingdom remains committed to supporting the Malian people. This financial year, the UK is providing around \$55 million in assistance, including support for health, education, and humanitarian assistance for those displaced by conflict.

We welcome efforts taken by the government of Mali to address challenges facing the Malian people and encourage them to take further steps to strengthen the protection of human rights and end impunity.

Mr Vice President, what further steps could the international community take to support Mali in strengthening accountability and protecting civic space?

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/un-human-rights-council-61-uk-statement-for-the-interactive-dialogue-on-mali>