



Your position on the UK and the United Nations

How would your party take forward the UK interest in an effective United Nations?

UNA-UK is a grassroots movement with supporters and local groups in all four nations of the UK. We write on their behalf to seek a short statement on your position on the United Nations ahead of the General Election.

Our movement is diverse – spanning all ages, ethnicities and political affiliations. What they share is the recognition that all British citizens benefit greatly from our international system, from laws that protect our rights and environment, to institutions that deal with conflict, disasters and humanitarian crises. They know that what happens in other countries matters to their own lives, and they believe that the UK can and should play an active and progressive role on the world stage.

They are deeply concerned that British policy-makers have underestimated the need to invigorate and develop our international institutions – particularly the UN, which is essential to solving the problems facing the UK and the world. This needs to change if the UK is to maintain its strategic importance and prosper as a nation.

Better public debate on foreign policy is an important starting point. This should raise awareness of how the UN benefits people in this country, discuss the compromises necessary for effective global cooperation and improve the national conversation on Britain's role in the 21st century.

We would be grateful if you could provide us with a short statement that addresses the following:

- *What can be done to stimulate informed public debate on the need for more effective international cooperation?*
- *What are your three priorities for improving the UN?*
- *How should the UK go about 'earning its keep' as a permanent member of the UN Security Council?*

Yours sincerely,

Sir Jeremy Greenstock
Chairman, United Nations Association– UK