

The Scottish Parliament | Parlamaid na h-Alba

Petitions

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Recognise Direct Democracy (DD) by enacting the International Covenant on Civil & Political Rights.

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to implement Parliament's motion of 26.09.2012:

"That the Parliament acknowledges the sovereign right of the Scottish people to determine the form of government best suited to their needs and declares and pledges that in all its actions and deliberations their interests shall be paramount"

by ensuring that all rights described in the ICCPR Covenant - including direct Political Rights such as Popular Referendums as expressed in Art. 25 - are given full legal effect in devolved legislation.

Background information

UN Human Rights Committee (UNHRC) General Comment 25 on Art 25 (1996); website wecollect.scot contains complete DD information (2024).

ICCPR Covenant excluded from Taskforce for HR Leadership (2021), SNAP 1 & 2 (2013 & 2023) and Consultation for Scottish HR Act (2023). Nevertheless, ScotGov confirms "the right to public participation in public affairs as expressed in Art 25 of ICCPR" (2023: Building a new Scotland #4).

Scottish HR Commission recommends that (i) "the UK, at every level of government, desists with all policy activities which restrict or undermine the level of protection for civil and political rights in the present Covenant," and (ii) "the Scottish Government pursue measures to improve public participation in public affairs at all levels" (4 February 2024).

UNHRC criticises the UK because "not all rights enshrined in the Covenant are adequately incorporated into the domestic legal system" and recommends "all Covenant rights are given full legal effect." (3 May 2024).

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