



Joint Committee on Human Rights

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7 December 2010

Rt Hon Theresa May MP
Home Secretary
Home Office
Peel Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

Dear Theresa,

Review of Counter-Terrorism Powers: Grounds for not deporting terrorist suspects

The Joint Committee on Human Rights welcomes the Government's review of counter-terrorism and security powers and is looking forward to scrutinising its outcome. In preparation for that scrutiny, we would find it useful to be provided with certain information. This letter seeks information which will enable us to scrutinise properly the use of deportations in a manner that is consistent with the UK's human rights obligations, which is one of the six key counter-terrorism powers under review.

I would be grateful if you could provide us with the following information:

Q1. In each of the last five years, how many deportations of foreign nationals suspected of involvement in terrorism have been prevented by the UK's human rights obligations?

Q2. In each year, how many deportations were prevented on the basis that deportation would be incompatible with

(a) Article 3 ECHR and

(b) Article 8 ECHR?

Q3. In each year, how many decisions to deport foreign nationals suspected of involvement in terrorism have been overturned by judicial decisions on human rights grounds?

Q4. In each year, how many decisions to deport foreign nationals suspected of involvement in terrorism have been overturned on the basis that deportation would be incompatible with

(a) Article 3 ECHR and

(b) Article 8 ECHR?

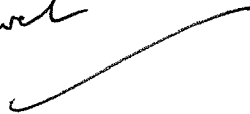
If a precise statistical breakdown is not available, I would appreciate a detailed explanation of the reasons why not, and your best estimate of the approximate numbers.

Q5. Will the Government ensure that this information is systematically collected and made available to Parliament in future, to ensure that parliamentary debate on this emotive issue is fully informed?

It would be helpful if we could receive your reply by 21 December 2010. I would also be grateful if your officials could provide the Committee secretariat with a copy of your response in Word format, to aid publication.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours
Hywel



Dr Hywel Francis
Chair, Joint Committee on Human Rights