

Statement from The Scottish National Party on preventing mass atrocities

The Scottish National Party is fully committed to upholding the liberal, rules-based international order. Working with, and through, international organisations such as the United Nations, the European Union and NATO is among the most effective ways to contribute to a more secure, peaceful and prosperous world.

Beyond simply promoting responsible internationalism, the SNP also recognises the need to strengthen and reform the rules-based international order, and we are grateful to Protection Approaches for the valuable work they do in helping to champion such reform in the area of identity-based violence.

Often, efforts to prevent identity-based violence and atrocities begin too late. It is only through a truly cross-departmental approach that the UK Government can recognise, flag and prevent the causes of identity-based violence before it has a chance to take root in societies across the world – at home and abroad. To this end, the SNP support the establishment of a cross-departmental prevention analysis unit and will continue to call on the UK Government to integrate the commitment to prevention of identity-based violence, from discrimination to violent extremism and mass atrocities, across all relevant portfolios and departments.

The prevention of atrocities is an issue that should transcend party lines and one that should be championed by all parliamentarians in the United Kingdom. To this end, we look forward to working with organisations like Protection Approaches and MPs from all parties to call on the UK Government to commit to introducing mechanisms to prevent identity- based violence and mass atrocities.

It is only through collaboration and working together to promote our shared values that we can build a safer world. In the next parliament, SNP MPs look forward to working with colleagues from across the House, and outside it, to achieve this. We hope to continue working with you in the future and would welcome any further concerns or proposals.

Response to an open letter to Party Leaders from the UK Civil Society Atrocity Prevention Working Group, coordinated by Protection Approaches