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Time to alter the established order of our Human Rights - or to defend it?

Analysis of the government's plans to review current Human Rights legislation

Room 3 House of Lords Monday 12 December at 6.30pm

Sophie Farthing Policy Officer, Liberty Neil Crowther

Former Human Rights Director, Equality and Human Rights Commission

Chair: Lord Dubs

Member, Joint Committee on Human Rights

Government Ministers have indicated that Parliament should revisit or even repeal the Human Rights Act (1998); many disagree. But this prompts us to reflect on how perceptions of human rights have developed since the adoption of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and the European Convention on Human Rights (1951). At that time, individual rights took precedent over communal rights, identified by many as in the gift of the State empowered to determine how such rights should be observed. The Home Secretary's recent statements appear to question the established hierarchy of rights, siding more with Soviet ideologues of sixty years ago. A mooted British Bill of Rights would see the repeal of sections of the Equality Act (2010), adversely affecting legal casework funding for human rights and also removing key functions from the Equality and Human Rights Commission. Please join this important debate.

The Annual General Meeting will start at 6.30pm to be followed by the debate on Human Rights at 7pm. The meeting will end before 8.30pm.

Please allow 25 minutes to negotiate the rigorous security procedures upon entry

For information, contact info@unawestminster.org.uk or tel 020 7385 6738