

Institute for the Advancement of Justice & Human Rights

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Date: 25 August 2026

To: UPR Project at Birmingham City University

Via: jon.yorke@bcu.ac.uk; alice.storey@bcu.ac.uk; amna.nazir@bcu.ac.uk

Subject: The U.S. Universal Periodic Review record — a procedural request before 10 November

Attachments: Letter to the Office of the High Commissioner (stakeholder window); Letter to the President of the Human Rights Council (non-cooperation mandate)

Dear colleagues,

The UPR Project's 2025 submission on the United States, and your broader body of work on the mechanism itself, are the reason we write to you specifically. The question we raise is not about the United States' record but about the mechanism's: the rescheduled review of 10 November 2026 will rest on stakeholder information closed in early 2025, some eighteen months before consideration, while every other State at the fifty-third session had a 2026 window. No new organizations have been admitted since.

We have asked OHCHR to reopen the window, and asked the President of the Human Rights Council how the mandate created by the decision of 7 November 2025 is being exercised. Both letters are attached.

As the academic centre most closely identified with the UPR's procedural integrity, would the Project consider addressing the same question independently — whether by letter, or in your published commentary, where your analysis of the universality and equal-treatment implications would reach an audience no NGO letter can?

Respectfully,

Cyrus Hazari

Director, Institute for the Advancement of Justice & Human Rights

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IAJ email to UPR Project at Birmingham City University Subject: The U.S. Universal Periodic Review record — a procedural request before 10 November

Attachments:

IAJ_Letter_OHCHR_Stakeholder_Window.pdf → <http://iaj.institute/publications/IAJ-COM-20260825-002-PUB.pdf>

IAJ_Letter_HRC_President.pdf → <http://iaj.institute/publications/IAJ-COM-20260824-002-PUB.pdf>

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