

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PRESS RELEASE

News Flash

AI Index: EUR 45/032/2003 (Public)
News Service No: 287
18 December 2003

United Kingdom: Repeal emergency powers

Amnesty International notes the Privy Counsellor Review Committee's report on the Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 (ATCSA) presented today to the United Kingdom Parliament.

Among other things, in this report, the Privy Counsellors "strongly recommend that the powers which allow foreign nationals to be detained potentially indefinitely should be replaced as a matter of urgency", and that they should be replaced with measures that do "not require a derogation from the European Convention on Human Rights".

Amnesty International too has recommended that the UK Government repeals the powers in Part 4 of the ATCSA, under which foreign nationals can be detained indefinitely without charge or trial.

The organization awaits urgently a detailed and considered response from the UK Government to the concerns and recommendations outlined in its report *United Kingdom: Justice perverted under the Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001*, issued on 11 December 2003.

Background

For more information see Amnesty International's report: [Justice Perverted under the Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001](#)

In April 2002, the UK Home Secretary charged nine Privy Counsellors with reviewing the ATCSA and reporting to the UK authorities.

Public Document

For more information please call Amnesty International's press office in London, UK, on +44 20 7413 5566

Amnesty International, 1 Easton St., London WC1X 0DW. web: <http://www.amnesty.org>

For latest human rights news view <http://news.amnesty.org>