

News Release

Date: 12.04.2021 - for immediate use

Contact: Richard Reeve on 07811 362054 or richard@rethinkingsecurity.org.uk

HUMAN SECURITY AND THE INTEGRATED REVIEW

Tomorrow (Tues 13th April) the House of Commons will discuss Human Security for the first time in a landmark Westminster Hall debate sponsored by Wera Hobhouse MP.

Rethinking Security, a network of peace and security practitioners, analysts and activists, welcomes the debate and has published a briefing for parliamentarians, civil society and media to explain how global human security could and should be promoted in the operationalisation of the government's recent Integrated Review of Security, Defence, Development and Foreign Policy.

Human Security and the Integrated Review explains what the approach means, how it has developed and been adopted by various actors, including the UK government, and how the Integrated Review and other recent UK national security strategies have fallen short of promoting human security at home or abroad.

The debate and briefing mark the culmination of Rethinking Security's year-long engagement with the Integrated Review and the beginning of an ambitious three-year project to conduct an Alternative Security Review that puts human security first.

Rethinking Security Co-ordinator Richard Reeve said:

"In its attempts to describe Global Britain's ambitions for the next decade, the Integrated Review contains a number of omissions, inconsistencies and contradictions that the Government urgently needs to address.

"It should be clear about who it expects to benefit from UK foreign and security policy and lay out a clear framework for measuring whether its impact has been positive or negative.

"The Government should also state clearly its prioritisation of the risks it has assessed based on their impact on human security. It must explain how it has mapped the resourcing of its priority actions against them, with particular emphasis on addressing climate change & biodiversity loss and global public health.

"Over the next three years Rethinking Security will be coordinating an Alternative Security Review to do what this and previous governments should have done: to develop a Human Security Strategy for the UK, its people and the planet."

ENDS

Notes to Editors

1. Rethinking Security Co-ordinator, Richard Reeve is available for comment – 07811 362054
2. The Rethinking Security media page and factsheet is at www.rethinkingsecurity.org.uk/media
3. The Briefing: *Human Security and the Integrated Review* can be viewed online at <https://rethinkingsecurityorguk.files.wordpress.com/2021/04/human-security-and-the-integrated-review-april-2021.pdf>
4. All Rethinking Security's policy work on the Integrated Review, including the latest briefing can be viewed at <https://rethinkingsecurity.org.uk/policy-makers/>
5. Rethinking Security's evidence submission to the Integrated Review (Sep 2020) can be viewed at <https://rethinkingsecurityorguk.files.wordpress.com/2020/09/rs-submission-to-the-integrated-review-03-sep-2020.pdf>
6. About Rethinking Security:
 - Short description – Rethinking Security is a network of peace and security practitioners and experts.
 - Long description – Rethinking Security is a network of organisations, academics and activists working together for security based on justice, co-operation and sustainability.
7. Member organisations:
 - Campaign Against Arms Trade
 - Campaign For Nuclear Disarmament
 - Centre for Feminist Foreign Policy
 - Conciliation Resources
 - Forces Watch
 - International Alert
 - Medact
 - Movement for the Abolition of War
 - Northern Friends Peace Board
 - Peace Direct
 - Quaker Peace And Social Witness
 - Quaker Asylum and Refugee Network
 - Saferworld
 - Scientists for Global Responsibility
 - United Nations Association – UK
 - War on Want

Our work also benefits substantially from the active participation of academics from the universities of Bradford, Coventry, Kent, LSE, Oxford Brookes and York.