

Qatar, UK Strengthen Human Rights Cooperation, Back Palestinian State



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London, September 2, 2025.

Her Excellency Maryam bint Abdullah Al-Attiyah, Chairperson of Qatar's National Human Rights Committee (NHRC), held a series of meetings in London to expand cooperation with the United

Kingdom on human rights, global advocacy, and women's empowerment.

In her talks with Mr. John Kirkpatrick, Chief Executive of the Equality and Human Rights Commission, Al-Attiyah stressed the importance of exchanging expertise, building partnerships, and strengthening the capacity of human rights defenders. Discussions covered complaint-handling mechanisms, anti-discrimination measures, and the protection of children, persons with disabilities, and migrants. Both sides explored joint research, international conferences in Doha, London, and Geneva, and data-sharing to advance human rights standards.

Meeting with Ms. Elisabeth Davies, Legal Ombudsman, Al-Attiyah highlighted the need for cooperation on transparency and fairness in complaint review, mediation, and dispute resolution. She proposed joint training, research on legal challenges, and collaborative projects supporting prisoner education and reintegration into society. A memorandum of understanding between the NHRC and the Ombudsman's office is expected to be signed at the NHRC's 2025 International Conference.

In discussions with Baroness Harriet Harman, the UK Special Envoy for Women and Girls, Al-Attiyah underlined Qatar's leadership role in promoting women's rights. She noted Qatari women's equal participation in the labor market, rising representation in both sectors, and strong progress in education. She proposed joint initiatives to empower women and girls, particularly in

conflict zones, and to strengthen international networks of female leadership.

Al-Attiah also commended the UK's intention, announced by Foreign Secretary David Lammy, to recognize the State of Palestine, stressing that such steps contribute to Middle East stability and peace.