

# JUSTICE PRESS RELEASE

JUSTICE  
59 Carter Lane  
London  
EC4V 5AQ  
(020) 7329 5100  
[www.justice.org.uk](http://www.justice.org.uk)

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 3.30PM THURSDAY 19 APRIL 2012**

## **States not “pulling their weight” must do better: the message from Brighton**

As the 47 States of the Council of Europe prepare to finalise the Brighton declarations, Angela Patrick, JUSTICE’s Director of Human Rights Policy said:

“The Secretary of State today made a strong commitment to the shared values and standards in the European Convention on Human Rights.

That the Court is here to stay and that States must do more to prevent violations in the first place are the two headlines from Brighton.

Sir Nicolas Bratza stressed this morning that a strong, independent and respected Court is needed more than ever. “We agree with Nick”. A few of the original UK proposals are rightly gone. We can't see that the amendment of the Convention to be agreed is either needed or wise.

Brighton commits States not "pulling their weight" on rights to do better: the real challenge will be making good on this commitment.”

For further comment, please contact Angela Patrick, JUSTICE’s Human Rights Policy Director, on 020 7762 6415 (direct line) or [apatrick@justice.org.uk](mailto:apatrick@justice.org.uk).

*Chairman of Council Baroness Kennedy of The Shaws QC Director Roger Smith OBE*  
JUSTICE Registered Charity No 1058580  
A company limited by guarantee and registered in England No 3216897 Registered office as above  
*British Section of the International Commission of Jurists*