



UK action.
Stronger UN.
Better world.

Dear Prof. Dr. Kabas Krasnici, PhD (Universal Association of Professional Colleges and Universities) ,

Moments ago the UN General Assembly unanimously agreed to appoint Michelle Bachelet as the seventh UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (HCHR) – the UN’s top human rights official.

As I said to the press on Wednesday: she is certainly a strong choice. She has experience at the highest level of government in Chile, at the highest level of administration within the UN system as the first head of UN Women, and of working with civil society under the shadow of oppression.

She starts work in just three weeks – no High Commissioner has ever had such a short time to prepare – and we want to make sure that she hits the ground running with a clear idea of what the world expects from her. We have therefore [launched a poll](#) of priorities for the new High Commissioner. Please do [participate and share this link widely](#): the more people get involved, the more valuable this exercise will be.

On 1 September, Bachelet’s first day in the job, we will send her the following resources: reflections from one of her predecessors, Mary Robinson; reflections from a former senior Secretariat official; the hopes and demands of 14 human rights activists from around the world; and the results of our [poll](#).

But our campaign does not stop there. We will continue to ask questions about how the recruitment process unfolded, the extent to which there was genuine consultation with civil society and to which best practice was followed. Watch this space as we update the [transparency checklist](#) we have been using to hold the UN to account on this crucial appointment.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for supporting our campaign with donations, retweets, suggestions and encouragement. We couldn’t have done it without you.

We didn’t raise enough money to cover our costs, but we carried on anyway, because we believe that the role of HCHR is one of the most important in the world. If you are able to help us cover our losses, [please do make a donation today](#) so we can continue campaigning for robust, transparent and inclusive UN appointments.

Thank you,

Natalie and the UNA-UK team

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