



International Relations Committee Report: Yemen: Giving Peace a Chance **Debate on 1 April 2019**

This briefing identifies relevant reports and useful documents, including recent parliamentary materials and press articles, which may be of assistance to Members in preparing for the following debate:

Lord Howell of Guildford to move that this House takes note of the report from the International Relations Committee Yemen: Giving Peace a Chance (6th Report, HL Paper 290).

Copies of the materials are available for collection from the Library.

Key Information

- House of Lords International Relations Committee, [Yemen: Giving Peace a Chance](#), 16 February 2019, HL Paper 290 of session 2017–19

In its report, the committee contended that the humanitarian situation in Yemen was “unconscionable” and called on the Government to “do more” to support the work of Martin Griffiths, Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for Yemen. It also urged the Government to “immediately condemn any further violations of international humanitarian law by the Saudi-led coalition, including the blocking of food and medical supplies, and be prepared to suspend some key export licences to members of the coalition”.

- House of Commons, [‘Written Statement: Foreign Secretary Visit to the Middle East and the Situation in Yemen’](#), 7 March 2019, HCWS1383

Statement by the Foreign Secretary, Jeremy Hunt, on the situation in Yemen following his recent visit to the Middle East.

- Congressional Research Service, [Yemen: Civil War and Regional Intervention](#), 21 March 2019

Research briefing on the conflict in Yemen, which includes a summary of the ceasefire, brokered by the UN in December 2018, focused on the Red Sea port city of Hodeidah. The briefing also cites UN estimates that “close to 80% of Yemen’s population of nearly 30 million” require some form of humanitarian aid.

- House of Commons Library, [UK Arms Exports to Saudi Arabia: Q&A](#), 25 October 2018; and [Yemen Update Autumn 2018](#), 31 October 2018

Research briefings on the conflict in Yemen, which provide information on UK arms sales to parties to the conflict and the humanitarian situation in the country—including UN estimates that at least half the population, or 13 million people, were facing pre-famine conditions as at October 2018.

Parliamentary Debates and Questions

- [Debate on 'Yemen'](#), HC Hansard, 28 February 2019, cols 633–40
- [Oral Question on 'Yemen: UK Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia'](#), HL Hansard, 20 February 2019, cols 2272–4
- [QSD on 'Yemen'](#), HL Hansard, 15 November 2018, cols 2061–76

Press Articles

- Patrick Wintour, '[Five Opposition Parties Call on UK to End Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia](#)', *Guardian*, 25 March 2019
- Patrick Wintour, '[UK's Saudi Weapons Sales Unlawful, Lords Committee Finds](#)', *Guardian*, 16 February 2019
- Henry Mance, '[UK Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia Break International Law, Say Lords](#)', *Financial Times* (£), 16 February 2019

Further Information

- House of Lords International Relations Committee, [The Middle East: Time for New Realism](#), 2 May 2017, HL Paper 159 of session 2016–17
- House of Commons International Development Committee, '[Humanitarian Situation in Yemen Inquiry](#)', accessed 25 March 2019
- House of Commons Business, Innovation and Skills and International Development Committees, [The Use of UK-manufactured Arms in Yemen](#), 15 September 2016, HC 679 of session 2016–17; and [Government Response](#), November 2016, Cm 9349
- House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee, [The Use of UK-manufactured Arms in Yemen](#), 15 September 2016, HC 688 of session 2016–17; and [Government Response](#), November 2016, Cm 9353
- House of Commons International Development Committee, [Crisis in Yemen](#), 4 May 2016, HC 532 of session 2015–16; and [Government Response](#), 14 July 2016, HC 557 of session 2016–17
- House of Commons Library, [Yemen and the Death of Saleh](#), 12 January 2018

House of Lords Library briefings provide a selection of politically balanced reading material intended to help Members prepare for debates. Briefings are published on the Library's [parliamentary intranet site](#) in advance of debates, and are also automatically emailed to those Members who have their name on the speakers' list.

Please respect the copyright of the owners of the documents cited. The Library is not responsible for either the views or the accuracy of external content. Any comments on Library briefings should be sent to the Head of Research Services, House of Lords Library, London SW1A 0PW or emailed to purvism@parliament.uk.