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Local & National

Human rights body criticises planned new laws






Tuesday, February 06, 2007

The Human Rights Commission has criticised planned legal changes by the British Government that it says will limit its power to investigate rights abuses.

The commission says new laws being planned in London will restrict its ability to investigate allegations of past human rights abuses or any issue that might be construed as relating to national security or intelligence matters.

The SDLP, meanwhile, says it is concerned that the proposals will impose non-jury courts on a permanent basis and give the British Army permanent policing powers.

Sinn Fein has also come out in opposition to the changes, saying they will undermine efforts to move away from the repressive laws of the Troubles.

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