Analysing the Agreements (Treaties) on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons (Offenders/Prisoners) between the United Kingdom and Asian, African and Latin American Countries

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1. Introduction
At the end of December 2011 the United Kingdom prisons were home to 11,077 foreign nationals from 159 countries, representing 13 percent of the prison population.1 Because of the need to transfer these sentenced persons to complete their respective sentences in their countries of nationality and for the UK nationals imprisoned in those countries to serve part of their sentences in the UK, the United Kingdom has entered into prisoner transfer agreements with 22 countries from Africa, Asia and Latin America.2 The United Kingdom also ratified the

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2) The research for this article is based on the prisoner transfer agreements there were available on the UK’s Foreign and Commonwealth Office website (<www.fco.gov.uk/en/publications-and-documents/treaties/treaty-texts/prisoner-transfer-agreements>) in May 2012. These agreements are: Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Republic of Uganda on the Transfer of Convicted Persons (2 June 2009); Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of
Council of Europe Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons\(^3\) and the


\(^3\) The UK ratified this treaty on 30 April 1985. See <conventions.coe.int/Treaty/Commun/ChercheSig.asp?NT=112&CM=8&DF=&CL=ENG> (accessed 14 May 2012).