



EUROPEAN UNION
Delegation of the European Union to the Council of Europe

Weekly Media Report of developments related to the Council of Europe **23 - 27 November 2015**

The Weekly Media Report gives an overview of recent news in international media. Please note that the Report does not constitute a formal communication, does not represent the official position of the Delegation and does not commit the European Union in any way.

Ce rapport donne un aperçu de nouvelles récentes dans les médias internationaux. Ce rapport n'est pas une communication formelle, ne représente pas la position officielle de la Délégation et n'engage en aucun cas l'Union Européenne.

SG

[Le Conseil de l'Europe s'inquiète après des rapports sur de 'mauvais traitements' de migrants](#)

25/11/2015 - Le Parisien / France

La situation des migrants et des réfugiés inquiète le Conseil de l'Europe qui a annoncé mercredi sa décision d'"intensifier sa surveillance", notamment aux frontières, après des rapports faisant état de "mauvais traitements" visant ces personnes. Le secrétaire général du Conseil de l'Europe, Thorbjørn Jagland, devait exprimer "son inquiétude" mercredi devant le comité des ministres de l'organisation paneuropéenne, à propos de rapports faisant état de "mauvais traitements" visant "des migrants et des réfugiés en Europe", a précisé un communiqué. S'appuyant sur ces rapports, "le Conseil de l'Europe va donc intensifier sa surveillance des droits de l'Homme dans ces régions, comme base à toutes décisions ultérieures et à toute action", a précisé l'organisation. M. Jagland s'inquiète en particulier "des conditions inhumaines dans les camps de migrants", notamment dans la "Jungle" de Calais (nord de la France).



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International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

[Today Is International Day For The Elimination Of Violence Against Women](#)

25/11 – Forbes / International

One in three women around the world experience physical or sexual violence at some point in their life. This is a horrific pandemic that can be stopped, but we need to continue to find solutions and keep at it. The United Nations created UN Women in 2010, the Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, and their work around the world is extensive. They have made today, November 25th, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Many groups and individuals are acknowledging the importance of this day to galvanize and organize the world to bring about change. One such organization is Vital Voices, whose mission it is to search for and work with leaders around the globe in an effort to improve the lives of women and girls.

ECHR

[Top European court upholds France's headscarf ban](#)

26/11 - *Deutsche Welle / Germany*

The European Court of Human Rights has ruled in favor of a hospital in France, which had enforced a ban on headscarves at work. The court said the ban did not affect religious freedom. The Strasbourg-based international court's ruling upholds a ban on employees in the public sector wearing headscarves and other religious symbols. In 2000, Muslim social worker Christiane Ebrahimian, who worked in the psychiatric department of a hospital in the Parisian suburb of Nanterre. When she learned that her contract would not be renewed because she refused to take off her headscarf despite complaints from patients and colleagues, she decided to sue the hospital, taking her case all the way to the European Court of Justice.

[Germany violated anti-abortion activist's human rights - ECHR](#)

26/11 - *BBC/UK*

Germany was wrong to ban an anti-abortion activist from distributing leaflets near a clinic and naming doctors involved on his website, the European Court of Human Rights says. The court ruled that it violated the man's rights to freedom of expression. Klaus Guenter Annen was ordered to stop handing out the leaflets and publishing the names of doctors in 2007. The rise of US-style anti-abortion protests has caused controversy amid claims women feel harassed. In a short statement to the BBC after the European court's judgement, Mr Annen said the ruling was a "victory for freedom of expression for all of Europe".



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CommHR

[Pologne: le nouveau gouvernement enchaîne les décisions polémiques](#)

23/11 - RFI/international

Remplacement des chefs des services spéciaux, remplacement des juges au Tribunal constitutionnel, amnistie présidentielle pour un ancien ministre condamné, les premières décisions du nouveau gouvernement ne passent pas inaperçues. Le précédent gouvernement libéral avait déjà accepté cinq nouvelles candidatures de juges au Tribunal constitutionnel mais le président polonais Andrzej Duda, un conservateur, a volontairement refusé de les assermenter pour attendre les élections législatives et la victoire de son parti. C'est de là qu'est née la polémique. L'opposition a même quitté le Parlement lorsque le parti conservateur Droit et Justice a voté l'amendement permettant la nomination des cinq nouveaux juges. Lors des élections législatives, les conservateurs ont obtenu la majorité absolue à la chambre basse et au Sénat. Ils peuvent donc faire passer toutes les lois qu'ils veulent.

GRECO

[CoE urges more transparent party financing in Hungary](#)

23/11 - MTI / Hungary

The Council of Europe has urged that Hungary step up its anti-corruption measures and increase transparency in political party financing, in an addendum to the organisation's country report. According to the document, CoE's Group of States Against Corruption (GRECO) suggests that Hungary's State Audit Office (ASZ) should exercise faster, more proactive and more frequent checks on political parties. Parties should also be required to keep accounts and submit reports in line with their size and activities, and they should provide public access to their annual reports, the group suggested. Political parties and their foundations should publish the source of financial donations they receive, said GRECO, and called for precise regulations to prevent parties from getting around a ban on receiving anonymous donations. The group also proposed that political parties should regularly publish their revenues and expenses during election campaigns.

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