



@EUinKenya's Twitter launch marks international press freedom day

The European Union Delegation in Kenya has launched its Twitter presence today (Friday) to show its commitment to free speech and the importance of independent media in Kenya.

Through @EUinKenya on Twitter the European Union will talk about its development, trade and security partnership with Kenya and the Kenyan people. Representing the 27 states of the European Union the Delegation is a strategic partner of Kenya and has been present in the country since 1973.

The European Union Ambassador, Lodewijk Briet, talked about the important role of social media in public diplomacy in the 21st century:

“The European Union’s support to Kenya and the Kenyan people is as deep as it is wide. From building new roads and supporting farmers, to stabilising Somalia and promoting more trade for more Kenyan livelihoods, the European Union is a committed partner to Kenya.

“The European Union is founded on fundamental values and strongly supports the right to free expression, the open discussion of ideas and transfer of information in a growing democracy and economy like Kenya.

“@EUinKenya is an important way for the European Union to be part of the conversation as Kenya grows in importance, in the East Africa region and internationally.”

The European single market has more than 500 million consumers and is the main trading partner of Kenya, receiving more than a quarter of Kenyan exports, without any import tariffs or quota. Nairobi, Kenya, is also home to the regional headquarters of the European Union’s Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection agency, ECHO, and it’s non-profit lending organisation, the European Investment Bank.

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