9th MAY 2014 EUROPE IN THE WORLD



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HUMAN RIGHTS

Human Rights Dialogues

Priorities

Carrying on regular dialogues with an increasing number of partner countries is an efficient EU tool of bilateral engagement and cooperation in the promotion and protection of human rights. Dedicated formal human rights dialogues exist with some 40 countries, in the EU's Neighborhood, the Caucasus and Central Asia, Asia, Northern and Latin America. Sessions were conducted in 2013 with the African Union, Algeria, Armenia, Chile, China, Colombia, Georgia, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Lebanon, Mexico, Moldova, New Zealand, the Palestinian Authority, South Africa, Ukraine, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Vietnam.

Consultations on human rights took place with Canada, Japan, Russia, South Korea, the US and candidate countries (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey). In addition, nearly all the 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP) have a dialogue with the EU based on Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement, addressing the respect for human rights, democratic principles, the rule of law and good governance. The efficiency of human rights dialogues resides in their capacity to feed other policy areas, such as development cooperation and trade, and higher political dialogues, up to summits. It is therefore key to embed these dialogues in the overall relation of the EU to the third

Typically, these dialogues address the domestic human rights situation, including individual cases, of the partner country whilst being responsive to requests to discuss EU internal human rights issues, in close cooperation with EU Member States. United Nations (UN) and relevant regional organizations multilateral issues are included as standard items on the agenda of the dialogues.

Top 3 Facts

country concerned.

Not all dialogues are with countries: the EU has also a dedicated human rights dialogue with the African Union, reflecting the important efforts made to develop the pan African human rights architecture. Cooperation is also growing with other established or developing regional human rights mechanisms, such as the

Organisation of American States (OAS), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the League of Arab States (LAS) or the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

Human rights are essential elements of the EU's relations with strategic partners. In that spirit, in 2013, for the first time human rights consultations were held with the Republic of Korea. The establishment of official human rights dialogues is now an option with Mongolia, Singapore and the Philippines in the framework of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement agreed with the EU. Moreover, the EU and Myanmar agreed to launch a Human Rights Dialogue in 2014.

Did you know?

In those dialogues, an increasing number of third countries raise issues of concerns about human rights in the EU and its Member States. The concerns most often voiced related to the treatment of migrants, minorities, in particular the Romas, and acts of racism/discrimination.

Civil society is involved in the dialogues through prior consultation and debriefing after the sessions. In addition, a number of specific civil society seminars are organised per year to directly feed into the official human rights dialogues.



Human Rights:

The EU has adopted its first ever unified Strategic Framework for Human Rights and Democracy.





Human Rights:UN Secretary General
Ban Ki Moon, meet
Catherine Ashton.







Human Rights: EUSR for Human Rights, Stavros Lambrinidis and HRVP Catherine Ashton.

9th May Europe Day

Main links:

EEAS human rights:

http://eeas.europa.eu/human_rights/dialogues/index_en.htm