## **EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE**



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**HUMAN RIGHTS and MULTILATERAL DIPLOMACY** 

Brussels, EEAS.VI.A2 ARES(2014)

Dear Petitioner,

Thank you for your petition sent to the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Catherine Ashton, in April this year, requesting her to intervene in the process of the appointment of a Special Rapporteur of the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC), professor Hilal Elver.

The High Representative has asked me to reply, on her behalf, to your petition.

The selection and appointment of mandate holders of the HRC is regulated in resolution 5/1 of the HRC and has been further clarified in article 22 of HRC Resolution 16/21. The resolutions provide that the consultative group composed of representatives of all regions has to consider candidates in a fair manner, and that expertise and personal integrity are among the key criteria to be applied. It is the Human Rights Council President who, based on recommendations by the consultative group and further consultations, proposes who will be appointed and the HRC takes the decision.

The appointment of Hilal Elver as Special Rapporteur on the right to food was endorsed by the HRC on 8 May 2014.

The European Union trusts that the appointments of all Special Procedure mandate holders of the HRC are done in compliance with rules and regulations, and does not interfere with these procedures.

Yours faithfully

Anette Mandler