

## EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE



**The Head of Division**

ASIAPAC Asia and Pacific  
ASIAPAC.3 South-East Asia Division

Brussels,  
EEAS/ASIAPAC.3(2019)1787484

Dear Petitioner,

Thank you for your letter of 1st March and the petition addressed to HR/VP Federica Mogherini regarding recent developments in Cambodia.

The European Union and its Member States continue to put important efforts and significant resources into supporting the development of Cambodia. Access to European markets under the EBA ("Everything But Arms") trade preferential scheme has been an important driver of Cambodia's economic growth.

However, our partnership with Cambodia should also be based on values and principles: democracy, respect for human rights and labour rights, rule of law, good governance and sustainable development. The respect of democracy and human rights and labour rights is also part of our trade policy and underpins our trade preferences.

The EU will continue to urge the Cambodian government to take all necessary measures to restore a political environment in which all opposition parties, civil society and the media can function freely. We look to the Cambodian Government to take concrete steps to restore a functioning democracy in the country.

The EU's ultimate objective is to see a prosperous and stable Cambodia. We are convinced that respect for democracy and human rights is necessary for that.

Yours sincerely,

David Daly