

Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights Worldwide
Multiannual Indicative Programme (2014-2017)

The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) multiannual indicative programme 2014-2017 is a strategy paper as referred to in Articles 4 and 5 of the Regulation (EU) No 235/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a financing instrument for democracy and human rights worldwide.¹

1. Policy context

One of the EU's central roles is to promote and support democracy and human rights worldwide, in line with Article 21(2) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), which defines democracy, rule of law and the universality and indivisibility of human rights and fundamental freedoms as guiding principles of the EU's external action. The EIDHR is one of the EU's key instruments to fulfil this task.

In December 2011, the EU presented a new policy approach to respond to developing global challenges. The Joint Communication 'Human Rights and Democracy at the Heart of EU External Action — towards a more effective approach'² set out the need for coherence in mainstreaming human rights and democracy into external policies.

The Joint Communication led to the adoption in June 2012 of the *EU Strategic Framework and Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy*.³ This states that 'the EU will promote human rights in all areas of its external action without exception'. With this comprehensive package, the EU has reaffirmed 'its commitment to the promotion and protection of all human rights, whether civil, and political, or economic, social and cultural'. The Framework 'sets out principles, objectives and priorities to improve the effectiveness and consistency of EU policy as a whole'. It also 'anchors a commitment to genuine partnership with civil society'.

Together, the review of the EIDHR'2010 programming, the impact assessment of the EIDHR Regulation, and several evaluations, clarify some of the key lessons learnt from past implementation⁴.

¹ OJ L77/85, 15.3.2014. p.85.

² COM(2011) 886 final.

³ Council Conclusions on Human Rights and Democracy; 3179th Foreign Affairs Council meeting, Luxembourg, 25.06.2012.

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[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/registre/docs_autres_institutions/commission_europeenne/sec/2011/1479/COM_SEC\(2011\)1479_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/registre/docs_autres_institutions/commission_europeenne/sec/2011/1479/COM_SEC(2011)1479_EN.pdf);

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/registre/docs_autres_institutions/commission_europeenne/sec/2011/1478/COM_SEC\(2011\)1478_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/registre/docs_autres_institutions/commission_europeenne/sec/2011/1478/COM_SEC(2011)1478_EN.pdf);

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/human-rights/studies_evaluations_en.htm;

<http://www.eidhr.eu/library>.

The new EIDHR strategy is based on the aforementioned political context and is embedded in following core policy documents: the Council conclusions on Democracy Support in the EU's External relations and its *Agenda for Action*,⁵ the *Agenda for Change*⁶ (the principle of 'differentiation' of the *Agenda for Change* will not have an impact on EIDHR); the Council Conclusions on a *rights-based approach to development cooperation, encompassing all human rights*⁷; the renewed *European Neighbourhood Policy*,⁸ the *EU Enlargement Policy*,⁹ and the new *EU Approach to Budget Support*¹⁰ or *Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations*.¹¹ Democracy, human rights, rule of law and the respect for internationally recognised universal standards are key themes running through these policies.

One of the key tools to ensure coherent objectives in human rights and democracy are the Human Rights Country Strategies (HRCS) prepared by EU Delegations and endorsed by the Council. The key objective of the HRCS is to rationalise and integrate the application of EU human rights guidelines, toolboxes or action plans into one coherent policy document, in order to efficiently implement the EU human rights policies. The HRCS are also the main vehicle for setting out the EU's human rights priorities for all countries, and provide an essential point of reference for programming and implementing financial assistance on human rights to third countries, including under the EIDHR.

2. Role of the EIDHR

The EIDHR's objectives are set out in the first article of the regulation. It aims to:

- enhance respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international and regional human rights instruments;
- strengthen the protection, promotion and monitoring of these rights and freedoms, mainly by providing support to relevant civil society¹² organisations (CSOs), human rights defenders and victims of repression and abuse;

⁵http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/gena/111250.pdf.

⁶Communication from the European Commission *Increasing the impact of EU Development Policy: an Agenda for Change*, COM(2011) 637 final, 13.10.2011; Council Conclusions, 3166th Foreign Affairs Council Meeting, Brussels, 14.05.2012.

⁷ Foreign Affairs (Development) Council meeting, Brussels, 19.05.2014.

⁸Joint Communication 'Delivering on a new European Neighbourhood Policy' JOIN(2012) 14 final, 15.05.2012.

⁹ http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/index_en.htm.

¹⁰Communication 'The future approach to EU budget support to third countries', COM(2011) 638 final, 13.10.2011. Council Conclusions, 3166th Foreign Affairs Council Meeting, Brussels, 14.05.2012.

¹¹ Communication from the European Commission 'the roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations', COM(2012) 492 final and Council Conclusions; 3191st Foreign Affairs Council Meeting, Luxembourg, 15.10.2012.

¹² Civil society also includes social partners, see OJ L77/85, recital 15.

- support, develop and consolidate democracy in third countries, by enhancing participatory and representative democracy, strengthening the overall democratic cycle, in particular by emphasising the need for civil society to play an active role, increasing respect for the rule of law and improving the reliability of electoral processes, in particular through sending election observation missions.

The EIDHR follows and builds on the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights that covered the period 2007-13¹³ and on the precedent European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights, which ran between 2000 and 2006.¹⁴

The EU's actions through the EIDHR are highly visible, as it is designed to help civil society become an effective force for political reform and defence of human rights. Building on its key strength — the ability to operate without the need for host government consent — the EIDHR is able to focus on sensitive political issues and innovative approaches. It adds particular value through direct cooperation with local civil society organisations, who often need to preserve independence from public authorities, providing for greater flexibility and increased capacity to respond to changing circumstances.

The EIDHR actions will adapt to the changing circumstances when needed, taking into account the views of the European Parliament (as expressed in resolutions and reports) and of the Council (as expressed in Council Conclusions, EU guidelines and EU strategic priorities) on human rights and democracy.

3. Programming principles and complementarity

The EIDHR is complementary to geographical programming and is not primarily intended to support projects undertaken by national governments. Indeed, where such projects are of key importance in addressing human rights concerns, they are mainstreamed and addressed in geographical programmes agreed with governments. This is even more important in light of the Agenda for Change principles, which state that ‘the promotion of human rights, democracy, the rule of law and good governance and of inclusive and sustainable growth are two basic pillars of the EU policy and should receive strengthened support. They are mutually reinforcing’.¹⁵ Civil society action may nevertheless drive these projects and help to create an environment in which public authorities are more ready to engage in policy changes and appropriate capacity-building activity. Civil society is also essential in monitoring human rights developments and

¹³ OJ L 386, 29.12.2006.

¹⁴ Council Regulations Nos 975/1999 (developing countries) and 976/1999 (other third countries), which served as the legal basis for the activities carried out under the initiative;
http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/human_rights/human_rights_in_third_countries/r10110_en.htm.

¹⁵ Council Conclusions on Increasing the Impact of EU Development Policy: an Agenda for Change’ (3166th Foreign Affairs Council Meeting, Brussels, 14 May 2012).

records in their country. Where no bilateral programmes are planned, the EIDHR could be used to respond to the most pressing human rights and democracy needs.¹⁶

EIDHR projects complement other tools, which are used to implement EU policies for democracy and human rights. These range from political dialogue to various geographical and thematic instruments (e.g. the 2014-20 multiannual financial framework) and other policy tools like the EU's generalised scheme of preferences ('GSP').

The EIDHR's added value lies in its complementarity. Therefore, great attention is paid to ensuring coherence and synergy between the EIDHR and geographic and other thematic instruments, in particular the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI),¹⁷ the Instrument for Development Cooperation for the period 2014-20 (DCI),¹⁸ the European Development Fund (EDF)¹⁹ as well as the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II).²⁰

Geographic programmes within their scope support third countries' authorities to undertake structural reforms. These reforms include policy and strategy development, institutional development and revision of the legal framework, so that the public institutions operate on a more robust, transparent and democratic basis. While civil society organisations are usually consulted when preparing strategic programming documents and they may be the beneficiaries of support, if the government agrees, the main partner in designing and implementing geographic programmes is the government of the beneficiary country.

In the implementation of the EIDHR Regulation, 'the EU should apply a rights-based approach encompassing all human rights, whether civil, political, economic, social or cultural',²¹

This new commitment has been translated into the Commission Staff Working Document on a *rights-based approach*²² that has been reflected in the Council Conclusions²³. It further emphasises the importance of the synergies, coherence and complementarity between the EIDHR and other EU development instruments.

The EIDHR covers the whole world, civil society is the main target and the use of the instrument does not need third-country governments' consent (see chapters 4 and 5).

¹⁶ In accordance with Article 11(2)(b) and (c) of Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action (the 'Common Implementing Regulation'), OJ L 77/95, 15.3.2014.

¹⁷ Regulation (EU) No 232/2014, OJ L 77/27, 15.3.2014.

¹⁸ Regulation (EU) No 233/2014, OJ L 77/44, 15.3.2014.

¹⁹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52014PC0009&from=EN>; EDF remains outside of the EU budget and is not subject to the ordinary legislative procedure.

²⁰ Regulation (EU) No 231/2014, OJ L 77/11, 15.3.2014, p.11.

²¹ OJ L 77/85, recital 8.

²² SWD(2014) 152 final, Brussels, 30.4.2014

²³ Foreign Affairs (Development) Council meeting, Brussels, 19.05.2014; see also p. 2.

In addition, as the EIDHR is a flexible instrument, it can intervene in specific instances, such as:

1) difficult political contexts, including restricted space in which civil society organisations operate;

2) when the geographic programmes do not sufficiently involve civil society organisations;

3) when there is a window of opportunity for quick intervention through small and targeted measures.

Complementarity with thematic programmes will be also ensured, especially programmes ‘Civil Society Organisations and Local Authorities’ (CSO&LA),²⁴ ‘Global Public Goods and Challenges’²⁵ under the DCI and the ‘Instrument contributing to Peace and Stability’ (IcPS).²⁶

Improved operational coordination is essential when it comes to the civil society organisation component of the Development Cooperation Instrument. This is particularly true of the instrument’s support for an enabling environment for civil society actors, mapping civil society organisations and a local call for proposals and civil society organisation roadmaps.

The CSO&LA reflect a recently adopted policy, ‘The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe’s engagement with civil society in external relations’, and the EIDHR also has a strong focus on civil society. Given this, it is of the utmost importance that greater policy coherence is achieved between these two instruments. This can be brought about through complementary projects, such as promoting a conducive environment for civil society organisations and their contribution to the governance and accountability process, increasing civil society organisations’ capacity as independent actors, etc. Both instruments are independent and will form part of EU roadmaps for engagement with civil society organisations,²⁷ developed locally by EU Delegations. These should ensure that EU action on dialogue and cooperation with civil society is strong and consistent.

As far as the IcPS is concerned, a comprehensive approach will be taken, particularly with regard to crisis responses and post-conflict action. This will be especially important when it comes to issues such as reform of the justice and security sector, transitional justice, mediation, election support, women, peace and security, children and conflict, combating trafficking in human beings or protection of minority groups.

Whenever appropriate, complementarity and synergies should be ensured with EU activities funded under the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) budget, Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions and operations as well as action

²⁴ OJ L 77/44, 15.3.2014.

²⁵ Ibidem.

²⁶ OJ L77/1, 15.3.2014.

²⁷ The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe’s engagement with civil society in external relations, COM(2012) 492, section 4.5.

covered by relevant bilateral Member States' programmes or projects funded by other major donors and multilateral organisations.

Synergies will also be ensured between the EIDHR and the Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) operations, as refugees and other beneficiaries of humanitarian relief are often also victims of human rights violations that need to be documented, registered and treated, while respecting the different mandates of judicial/accountability mechanisms and humanitarian action. There will also be close coordination with ECHO over projects on international humanitarian law (IHL) to ensure complementarity and avoid overlap.

Finally, the implementation of EIDHR activities in countries is based on the relevant policy analysis and thematic priority setting provided in the EU human rights country strategies (see chapter 1 and 8 of this strategy paper).

Complementarity and coordination will be ensured throughout the entire project cycle, from the early planning, identification and formulation stages to the actual implementation and evaluation of the projects, with a view to avoiding duplications and overlaps, exploring synergies and maximising efficiency. Consistency will be sought on all three aspects over time.

4. EIDHR key features

*The EIDHR has worldwide coverage.*²⁸ The EIDHR operates at national, regional or international level, and can act in countries that are not developing countries, including in Member States if relevant to the needs of third countries.

The EIDHR has a strong focus on CSOs and local activities. It will continue to primarily support civil society organisations. In the most difficult situations, its focus will be on helping the survival of a weakened or shattered civil society and media, opening the door for dialogue and change. The EIDHR helps civil society advocacy abroad. It offers the chance of democratic education for students and vulnerable groups, often based abroad. Sometimes it simply tries to protect, and, if needed, to bring victims of repression out of the country into safety. It is expected that EIDHR will take a tailor-made approach to situations, focusing on local CSOs that wish to cooperate with other CSOs. The EIDHR will aim to support networking between CSOs, reaching out to under-represented groups, disenfranchised CSOs and community-based organisations.

One of the strengths of the EIDHR is its *independence of action*, allowing it to intervene without the host country's consent. This feature, particularly critical in the sensitive areas of democracy and human rights, enables action in the most difficult situations, creating synergies and complementarity where geographical instruments are unable to act.

²⁸ OJ L77/85, Article. 2(3).

The EIDHR pillars of democracy and human rights are inextricably linked. The fundamental freedoms of expression and association are preconditions for political pluralism and democratic processes, while democratic control and separation of powers are essential to sustain an independent judiciary and the rule of law. These, in turn, are required for effective protection of human rights.

The EIDHR has a specific window on EU election observation missions. Election observation missions contribute significantly and successfully to democratic processes in third countries. However, the promotion of democracy extends far beyond the electoral process alone.²⁹

The EIDHR cannot fund political parties. Direct funding of political parties is prohibited to guarantee the EIDHR's non-partisan approach. This does not exclude activities targeting political parties in a non-partisan manner (e.g. addressing their legal environment, or conducting training).

5. Operating principles

The EIDHR is flexible, reactive and tailor-made. While limited in financial scope, its flexible tools are essential. These include direct support to human rights defenders at risk, ad-hoc grants in most difficult situations, re-granting, eligibility for non-registered CSOs and natural persons.

The EIDHR is able to act in a confidential manner. In the most difficult environments, where basic rights and freedoms are most at risk, and in order to protect the physical safety of activists and others whose lives might be seriously endangered, the details of some projects cannot be made public. The European Commission reports on these projects to authorised people in the European Council, the European Parliament and the European External Action Service (EEAS) on a 'need-to-know' basis.

The EIDHR is a balanced instrument. A pragmatic combination of targeted projects and calls for proposals, management by both HQ and Delegations (through the Country-Based Support Schemes that focus mainly on the local NGOs), and actions taking place at global, regional and local levels, allows for a comprehensive and coherent implementation that involves civil society (the main target) and international and regional organisations and supports immediate needs and long term changes.

The EIDHR is untied. The global nature of the EIDHR requires the further untying of its resources. The EIDHR acts without restrictions based on nationality or origin. Project eligibility is based on the balance between relevance, quality and cost.

The EIDHR entails risks. The targeted difficult environments in which the instrument operates create physical and political constraints. These introduce serious challenges in implementing and monitoring projects, which are often managed by beneficiaries under pressure who lack resources.

²⁹ OJ L77/85, recital 16, Art 2 d (i) and (ii).

6. Strategic EIDHR objectives³⁰

In accordance with the Article 5 of the EIDHR Regulation, this MIP sets out the priority areas selected for EU financing between 2014 and 2017, the specific objectives in these areas, the expected results and the performance indicators. It also gives an indicative financial allocation, both overall and per priority area. Where appropriate, this is given as a range.

Annex 1 contains a table with objectives, expected results and performance indicators.

Annex 2 contains an indicative table of priorities, sub-objectives and allocations per EIDHR objective.

Annex 3 contains an indicative table of allocations per region for the EIDHR country-based support scheme (CBSS).

The EU strategic response, allowing the EIDHR to deliver on its goals, is based on five objectives:

Objective 1 — Support to human rights and human rights defenders in situations where they are most at risk

Effective support for human rights and human rights defenders (HRDs) in the situations where they are most at risk has been an EU priority since 2004, with EIDHR coverage since 2007. It is a key priority under the EU strategic framework and action plan on human rights and democracy.

The focus of this objective is to provide support to activities that concentrate on situations and countries where there is a serious lack of fundamental freedoms, where human security is most at risk, where HRDs are most under pressure, where civil society operates under difficulty, and where there is little room for political pluralism.

In such situations, the priority will be to promote respect for relevant international human rights laws, to provide tangible support and means of action to local civil society and to support its work, carried out in very difficult circumstances.

Special attention shall be given to support for, protection of and assistance to HRDs, in terms of Article 1 of the United Nations Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognised Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

The EIDHR's focus will be on the most difficult situations and the most vulnerable HRDs. These include women HRDs, land rights and environmental rights defenders, HRDs who defend the rights of indigenous peoples and persons belonging to minorities,

³⁰ See Annex 'Specific objectives and priorities of the EIDHR' in the EIDHR Regulation (OJ L77/85).

trade unionists who promote labour rights, lawyers, journalists and others who promote fundamental freedoms, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) HRDs, HRDs who work in remote areas, and HRDs who challenge violations of economic, social and cultural rights. This list does not exclude the possibility of focusing on new categories of HRDs that may emerge in response to new forms of human rights violations.

The EIDHR will contribute to meeting HRDs' urgent needs, e.g. for rapid medical assistance, legal support, access to international human rights mechanisms and UN special procedures, provision of protection and security (including relocation and/or shelter), psychological assistance and capacity-building. A tailored case-by-case approach to practical implementation will be adopted.³¹ Medium and long-term support will also be provided (e.g. legal support for lengthy judicial procedures) as well as regular monitoring of HRDs' situations, including early warnings. The EIDHR will also support public policies that protect HRDs

The projects covered under this objective will take into account the current worrying trend of a shrinking space for civil society. Many national governments take measures to prevent NGOs from setting up and obtaining legal status, impose excessively rigid controls on them, interfere with their activities (including through internet social networks and blogs), and limit their opportunities to obtain foreign funding. As a result, many HRDs face direct risks including being threatened, detained, tortured and killed. The adoption of restrictive NGO laws has been part of this crackdown, which has resulted in violations of the rights to freedom of association, assembly and expression, and has shrunk the space available for civil society organisations to carry out their mandates.³² A further worrying trend is the increasing numbers of HRDs and organisations who have been criminalised as a result of social and environmental/climate change protests, e.g. when big investment projects are at stake, and whose fundamental rights have not been respected by governments or the extractive industries. The latter is a particularly complex issue as it involves not only governments but also non-state actors such as companies (especially in the area of extractive industries), armed groups, land owners, radical groups, etc. Projects covered by this objective will therefore include advocacy, lobbying and developing strategies to counter restrictions and sanctions imposed by States on HRDs, including laws on defamation and foreign funding, and criminalisation of HRDs.

The gravity of the situation and the effectiveness of the action proposed will be the key considerations for assessing and prioritising project proposals.

The action financed by the EIDHR will be in line with the EU guidelines on HRDs³³ and other relevant human rights policy documents.

³¹ Support under objective 1 must be provided rapidly and in a flexible manner, in line with Article 6(1)(c)(i) and (ii) and Article 11 of the Common Implementing Regulation.

³² Extracts from speech delivered by Brigitte Dufour, the Director of the NGO 'International Partnership for Human Rights', at the 14th EU-NGO Forum on Human Rights, held in Brussels on 6-7 December 2012.

³³ http://eeas.europa.eu/human_rights/guidelines/defenders/docs/16332-re02_08_en.pdf.

Results to be achieved:

1. increased number of civil society organisations whose capacity to resist, report and fight human rights abuses and to contribute to democratic reform is reinforced in countries or regions where they are most at risk;
2. increased number of HRDs operating in extreme situations whose security and safety has been ensured through protection mechanisms financed by the EIDHR;
3. strengthened EU capacity to react quickly to human rights urgencies and an established comprehensive EU Human Rights Defenders mechanism.

Objective 2 — Support to other EU human rights priorities

Action under this objective will focus on providing support to activities where the EU has an added value or specific thematic commitment (e.g. current and future EU guidelines on human rights adopted by the European Council or resolutions adopted by the European Parliament), in line with Article 2 of the EIDHR Regulation. Action will be consistent with the priorities set out in the EU Strategic Framework and Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy.

The list below is not exhaustive and does not exclude the possibility of focusing on emerging human rights issues in response to new forms of human rights violations and/or new EU strategic priorities. EIDHR will provide support to human rights campaigns that mix advocacy and field operations and address serious violations of rights.

The main focus will be on:

- **Protecting human dignity:**
 - abolition of the death penalty;
 - eradication of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;
 - support for a comprehensive approach to rehabilitation, prevention and accountability activities;
 - ensuring accountability, including for action covered by the EU guidelines on the death penalty and on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Death Penalty

The EU Guidelines on the Death Penalty³⁴ provide the general framework for EIDHR assistance in this area. The EIDHR supports civil society in activities aimed at promoting the abolition of the death penalty, the establishment of a moratorium on the death penalty, and the restriction of the use of the death penalty. These may include:

- advancing an environment conducive to abolition through advocacy, lobbying and awareness-raising campaigns among the public and key decision makers, research, outreach activities and studies of forensic evidence and scientific approaches to expose miscarriage of justice.
- supporting the reform of criminal codes with the aim to restrict the total number of capital offences, reduce the application of death sentences, to guarantee the right to pardons, commutation and alternatives to the death penalty, and provide legal aid and assistance to people at risk of the death penalty or prisoners awaiting execution.
- promoting the signature, ratification and effective implementation of the Second Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other relevant international and regional instruments.
- monitoring the current conditions of the use of the death penalty and promoting the respect for and the application of the international minimum standards.

The EIDHR provides comprehensive coverage of countries, including industrialised and other high-income countries, where the death penalty has not yet been abolished. Particular attention should be paid to countries where the death penalty situation is in flux, i.e. where capital punishment is on the verge of being either reintroduced (for example through the lifting of a long-standing moratorium) or abolished, and to countries where the death penalty is most in use.

Torture and ill treatment

The Guidelines on EU policy towards third countries on torture, and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment³⁵ constitute the basis for action under this objective. Particular attention will be paid to the ratification and effective implementation of the UN Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, including acceptance of the right for individuals to complain, and its Optional Protocol. The EIDHR will support projects based on an integrated approach to combating torture and other forms of ill treatment, including prevention, rehabilitation and accountability. All projects should be placed in the broader context of the fight against impunity and support for the rule of law, including access to justice. Where relevant, activities may be linked to a post-conflict agenda of justice and

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http://eeas.europa.eu/human_rights/guidelines/death_penalty/docs/guidelines_death_penalty_st08416_en.pdf.

³⁵ http://eeas.europa.eu/human_rights/guidelines/torture/docs/20120626_guidelines_en.pdf.

reconciliation or to campaigning against a culture of violence as a consequence of previous torture or ill treatments, including sexual violence, children born from rape as a war tool, and trafficking in human beings.

The EIDHR will support projects that include an appropriate mix of activities, e.g. campaigns addressing the normative framework and enforcement provisions with a specific focus on promoting and implementing the UN Convention and its Optional Protocol, providing training and education on legal and medical aspects of preventing and documenting torture, direct provision of rehabilitation services and legal support to victims, and monitoring and information activities. Rehabilitation activities will be considered part of the victim's right to remedy and reparation, and these should take a comprehensive approach, encompassing medical and social rehabilitation and legal redress when possible.

The EIDHR will also focus on the prevention of torture and other forms of human rights violations in places of detention. Attention should be paid to the special needs of women and children. All projects should seek to strengthen local and regional professional capacity and networking.

While large-scale training programmes for judicial, police or medical personnel should normally be mainstreamed in geographical programmes, civil society may nevertheless provide pilot projects for such action to engage in policy changes and appropriate capacity-building activities.

- **Protecting and promoting children's rights, including children in armed conflict (CAAC).** In line with the EU Guidelines for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child (2007), its review in 2011, the EU Guidelines on Children and Armed Conflict (2003, revised in 2008),³⁶ the EU Strategy on CAAC³⁷ as well as other relevant policy documents,³⁸ the EIDHR activities will aim at promoting the rights of the child worldwide taking into account the latest international and internal developments. Action will focus *inter alia* on ensuring implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols, combating violence against children, fighting against child labour, and combating child trafficking. The EIDHR will also support projects on developing child-friendly justice systems, empowering and protecting children on the internet, and projects to protect children at risk and particularly vulnerable children such as children dealing with migration and mobility issues ('children on the move'), street children, children belonging to minority groups, missing children, children affected by traditional harmful practices, and other acts of discrimination against children. With regard to children in armed conflict, the EIDHR will support implementation of the Revised Implementation Strategy for the EU Guidelines on CAAC.³⁹ Action will therefore focus on: medical and psychological rehabilitation and socio-economic reintegration of all children affected by armed conflict; transitional justice; prevention of child recruitment through community-based services including

³⁶ http://eeas.europa.eu/human_rights/guidelines/index_en.htm.

³⁷ 8285/1/06 REV 1, Brussels, 25 April 2006.

³⁸ In order to ensure coherence of children's rights protection, the February 2011 communication *An EU Agenda for the rights of the child* (COM(2011) 60 final, 15.2.2011) covered both internal and external policy objectives in a single policy document.

³⁹ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/hr/news65.pdf.

protection systems for orphaned or abandoned children. Special attention will be given to girls who are victims of sexual exploitation and violence and ‘children as actors of peace’. Projects will also cover the rights of the child as part of corporate social responsibility and socially responsible procurement, and child participation in decision making processes than concern them (‘right to be heard’).

- **Protecting women’s rights** in all contexts through fighting discriminatory legislation, gender-based violence and marginalisation. The EIDHR will support projects fighting against sexual and gender-based violence and femicide in line with the UN Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), EU Guidelines on Violence against Women and Girls and Combating all Forms of Discrimination against Them,⁴⁰ the ‘EU Comprehensive Approach on UNSCR 1325 and 1820 on Women, Peace and Security’,⁴¹ the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy, the EU Plan of Action on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Development 2010-15, and the strategy for equality between women and men 2010-15.⁴² The EIDHR will also support the implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820 on Women, Peace and Security, in particular ensuring women’s equal involvement in all work to maintain peace and security, including transitional justice initiatives and post-conflict reconstruction. Other action will focus on combating the trafficking of women and girls, promoting the political and socio-economic participation of women with a special focus on countries in transition, and supporting initiatives against harmful traditional practices, in particular female genital mutilation (FGM), early and forced marriages and domestic violence. The EIDHR will also support the implementation of the 2010-15 EU plan of action for gender equality and women’s empowerment in development and other action.

In addition to supporting women’s rights under objective 2, the EIDHR will ensure gender mainstreaming throughout all EIDHR objectives.

- **Fighting discrimination in all its forms**⁴³ — inclusive promotion and support of non-discrimination issues, through close cooperation with civil society stakeholders that promote equality of rights for all, including:
 - Protecting the rights of LGBTI people, based on existing international legal standards in this area, including those set by the UN, the Council of Europe and the EU,⁴⁴ through supporting organisations that defend the rights of LGBTI people and protecting LGBTI HRDs Projects may include empowering people to challenge homophobic laws and discrimination against LGBTI people, raising awareness among the general public about the discrimination and violence experienced by sexual minorities, combating this discrimination and violence and

⁴⁰ http://eeas.europa.eu/human_rights/guidelines/women/docs/16173_08_en.pdf.

⁴¹ 15671/1/08 REV 1, http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/hr/news187.pdf.

⁴² http://eeas.europa.eu/human_rights/women/docs/index_en.htm;

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/gender-equality/files/strategy_equality_women_men_en.pdf.

⁴³ In line with International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the International Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and other international legal standards in this area.

⁴⁴ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/137584.pdf.

providing emergency assistance (from psychosocial and medical, to mediation and reintegration assistance) to vulnerable LGBTI people who need support.

- Protecting the rights of people with disabilities, working on this as a cross-cutting issue, including social inclusion (e.g. in employment, education, health), community-based rehabilitation, active participation and contribution by organisations representing people with disabilities and disability-focused organisations.
- Protecting indigenous peoples' rights by supporting their full participation in political and socio-economic life and ensuring that the relevant communities give free, prior and informed consent before decisions are taken that affect them⁴⁵.
- Fighting against racism and xenophobia; protecting people belonging to ethnic and minority groups, fighting discrimination based on caste, work, family, religion or belief, and gender identity; protecting other groups in vulnerable positions, such as migrants, refugees and stateless people. Supporting civil society organisations that work to promote these rights in line with the International Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) and to include these issues in programmes and policies.

- **Fighting against impunity** for serious crimes of concern to the international community (genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity), not least through its commitment to the International Criminal Court. The EIDHR will provide support to civil society in fighting against impunity by strengthening the rule of law, improving access to justice, and improving the functioning of accountable legal institutions at national level. The EIDHR will also provide legal and psychological assistance to victims acting as witnesses in trials and in post-conflict peace-building processes.

The EIDHR will prioritise support for transitional justice mechanisms linked to accountability (including judicial and non-judicial measures such as truth commissions, reparations programmes and guarantees of non-recurrence) and recognition (e.g. national campaigns empowering victims groups to engage with the government), as well as support for democratic processes which allow democratic institutions to deliver equal justice for all. This will create complementarity with other tools designed to fight impunity and encourage cooperation between States and the International Criminal Court. Particular attention will be paid to the ratification of the Rome Statute.

- **Promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief (FORB)** (in line with the new EU guidelines on FORB⁴⁶). The EIDHR will work to promote the enjoyment of this universal human right, in line with the relevant provisions of the

⁴⁵ See reference to the Outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples:

http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/69/L.1 as well as the UN Declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples:

http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf.

⁴⁶ http://consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/137585.pdf.

International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and General Comment 22 to the Covenant. Its focus will be on projects to combat and prevent religiously motivated discrimination for example against persons belonging to religious or belief minorities, intolerance and violence, in all its forms, including where this derives from traditional practices or legislation discriminating against women and girls. The EIDHR will particularly pay attention to countries that penalise individuals for changing their religion or belief, as adopting or abandoning a religion or belief through free choice is guaranteed by international human rights norms. Projects will promote pluralism, tolerance and mutual understanding.

- **Promotion of economic, social and cultural rights.** The EIDHR will support activities that implement the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which aims at empowering poor women and men through access to justice, the right to health, the right to education and non-discrimination, including those principles enshrined in the 1998 International Labour Organisation (ILO) Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the corresponding rights set out in the eight ILO ‘core’ conventions regarding the right to freedom of association and to collective bargaining, the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour, the effective elimination of child labour and the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation. Priority will be given to activities creating an enabling environment to realise these rights, including support for democratic and independent trade unions structures to strengthen social dialogue. The EIDHR will also support activities that raise awareness of economic, social and cultural rights and of the general principles of participation, accountability, non-discrimination, transparency, empowerment and redress. Special attention will be given to the extractive industries’ impact on socio-economic rights.

In line with the special incentive arrangement for sustainable development and good governance under the EU GSP trade scheme (GSP+), the EIDHR will support projects aiming to facilitate civil society monitoring of the commitments made by GSP+ countries with respect to international human rights, labour rights and good governance conventions covered by the GSP+ scheme.

The EIDHR will also encourage corporate social responsibility, in particular by implementing the UN guiding principles on business and human rights and supporting the national action plans to implement these guidelines, and freedom to conduct business, as set out in Article 16 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

- **Promoting respect for international humanitarian law,** including protecting human rights in conflict prevention and crisis management. In line with the EU Guidelines on promoting compliance with International Humanitarian Law⁴⁷ (IHL), the EIDHR will promote civil society activity to encourage implementation of the provisions of the four Geneva Conventions, their Additional Protocols, other international humanitarian law treaties (such as the Ottawa Convention on the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines and on their destruction) and customary international humanitarian law. This activity will include projects to encourage States to adhere to these Conventions, to implement their provisions in national legislation and to

⁴⁷ <http://register.consilium.europa.eu/doc/srv?l=EN&f=ST%2016841%202009%20INIT>.

ensure their implementation in practice, as well as encouraging observance of international humanitarian law by non-state actors. The EIDHR will also support civil society action designed to combat impunity for grave violations of IHL and ensure accountability.

Results to be achieved:

1. positive impact on implementing the EU guidelines in the field of human rights and the EU Strategic Framework and Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy.
2. increased awareness and understanding of human rights principles and instruments in all relevant thematic areas covered by this objective;
3. increase compliance with human rights obligations under international law, key international human rights treaties and commitments, including regional human rights instruments;
4. increased number of human rights organisations and defenders able to effectively address human rights violations, including through redress possibilities;
5. improved visibility of EU thematic campaigns in human rights areas covered by this objective.

Objective 3 — Support to democracy

The EU's commitment to democracy (Art. 21 TEU) is a key component of its foreign policy. This commitment was specifically spelled out in Council Conclusions from November 2009 on 'Increased coherence in the EU's support to democracy',⁴⁸ including the annexed 'Agenda for Action', and further developed in the European Neighbourhood Policy⁴⁹ as 'deep democracy'. It is also part of the 'Agenda for Change',⁵⁰ guiding EU development cooperation.

The EU is ready to stand by people and societies outside the EU in their aspirations for democracy and human rights. The EIDHR is one of the key EU instruments funding civil society as a key vector for democratisation. One of its strengths is that it does not require consent for action from host governments in non-EU countries.

Objective 3 will focus on supporting and consolidating democratic reforms in third countries, by:

- improving participatory and representative democracy;
- strengthening the overall democratic cycle and processes, including through consolidating political participation and representation;

⁴⁸ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/gena/111250.pdf.

⁴⁹ http://www.eeas.europa.eu/top_stories/2011/250511_en.htm.

⁵⁰ http://www.dev-practitioners.eu/fileadmin/Redaktion/Documents/Post-Busan_03_2012/agenda_for_change_en.pdf?PHPSESSID=e40027878fd33ee30ebfa76cb75e730c.

- developing pro-democracy advocacy;
- enhancing effective social dialogue and independent social partners ; and
- developing transparency and accountability.

The EIDHR will comprehensively address all aspects of democratisation, including promoting and defending civil and political rights. These particularly include freedom of expression, opinion, assembly and association, both online and offline (in line with the new EU guidelines on freedom of expression⁵¹). This includes measures to protect bloggers and journalists and support civil society organisations working on expanding the political space (*inter alia* through networks) to give larger number of citizens voice and representation and strengthen political pluralism and political rights. Particular attention should be paid to gender issues, which usually limit space for women and girls.

Support could also be given to organisations working on issues relating to a culture of democracy and human rights, such as domestic election observers, and to organisations monitoring the effectiveness and accountability of the use of public resources, in line with voters' preferences.

Under objective 3, the focus will be on helping make democracy work for citizens. The EIDHR will support work in pilot countries that have already been identified, where the EU is deepening its cooperation to strengthen democracy. Implementation will include an ongoing focus on transition countries, through all the phases of the transition process.

The response strategy will include:

- Support for domestic accountability, rule of law and effective oversight mechanisms and institutions, through strengthening the ability of independent media, parliaments and other oversight institutions and actors, and through accessible, independent justice institutions and transparent, accountable police and security forces;
- Support for participatory and representative democracy, including parliamentary democracy, through supporting representative, inclusive political parties, credible, transparent elections and the democratisation process at local, regional and international level, including through domestic observers;
- Support for pluralistic and inclusive political participation and representation, through expanding the political space to foster a pluralistic debate and inclusion, with a specific focus on women, minorities, indigenous peoples, disenfranchised groups, people with disabilities or other excluded groups, ensuring that all voices are heard;
- Support for freedom of association, peaceful protest and meaningful public participation in political processes, as well as active civic engagement at all levels to ensure inclusive participation by all parts of society;

⁵¹ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/142549.pdf.

- Support for transparency and the public's right to seek and receive information and government data, fostering responsive and accountable public bodies and institutions;
- Support for freedom of expression online and offline, including protecting bloggers and journalists and peoples' access to independent media;
- Support for democratic transition processes, in line with the Joint Communication on a new approach to the European neighbourhood policy, and for peace and reconciliation, including in pilot countries based on the principles in the Agenda for Action, in particular providing support to relevant institutions, non-state actors and civil society organisations to monitor these transition processes; as well as facilitation, mediation and/or reconciliation of group interests; and
- Support for special measures to increase work in pilot countries, based on the Agenda for Action, where the EU will deepen its cooperation to strengthen democracy.

The EIDHR may also contribute more directly to capacity-building in local or regional civil society organisations. The EIDHR may, under objective 3, support measures by local civil society organisations to help implement recommendations by EU election observation missions. The EIDHR will also continue to support civil society, including capacity-building in local and, as appropriate, regional civil society organisations.

Results to be achieved:

1. positive impact on domestic accountability, rule of law and effective oversight;
2. positive impact on representative democracy, as pluralistic, inclusive, and participatory;
3. positive impact on transparency, oversight and access to information;
4. positive impact on implementation of the Agenda for Action from the 2009 Council Conclusions on democracy support, in particular in pilot countries.

Objective 4: EU election observation

Objective 4 will support EU election observation as a major flagship of EU external relations. Action under this objective will ensure that election observation plays a full part in wider support for the democratic processes described under objective 3. In particular, where elections have been observed in the past, an approach that covers the entire democratic cycle will be taken. As part of this, follow-up on recommendations by previous election observation missions (EOMs) and election expert missions (EEMs) will be essential.

Since an approach covering the wider democratic cycle and follow-up on previous recommendations are mainly linked to the need for capacity-building and technical assistance, the EIDHR will, as necessary, complement bilateral programmes in this area that are funded under the DCI, EDF, ENI and IPA II in relation to civil society.

EOMs will follow the objectives, principles and methodology of electoral observation, as developed by the EU through over two decades of experience. They will also develop electoral observation, with a view to encouraging professionalism and transparency in electoral management, discouraging irregularities and abuse, and inspiring confidence in the electoral process. Though elections alone do not make a democracy, they represent a critical period in the democratic process, which tests the quality of civil and political rights, the design of the political system, and the electoral system in particular, the functioning of public institutions (such as the election management authority, the police and the judiciary), media pluralism, and the wider resilience and depth of the democratic culture.

Action under this objective will take into account the fact that observation methodology is reviewed and adapted, taking into consideration lessons learnt from reviews and responding to the new challenges arising from the reality of constant change (for example, following up on recommendations, standard observation, gender and human rights analysis, observation of voter registration).

EU EOMs will continue to focus on a limited number of polls, which meet the criteria of usefulness, advisability and feasibility.

Priorities will be decided based on the elections timetable, political developments and resources available. Despite the increase in demand for EOMs, in particular following the Arab Spring and democracy advances in other parts of the world, expenditure on EOMs will remain within 25% of the total EIDHR budget over the seven-year period.

To improve the effectiveness and impact of EU EOMs, measures will be taken to increase observation of upstream issues (e.g. voter and candidate registration), review electoral legislation and monitor the media. Emphasis will also be placed on acting on early findings (e.g. during the exploratory phase) and on final reports, to ensure that issues are raised appropriately during political dialogue and that relevant assistance is available as required from geographical programs or other donors. The EU will pay increased attention during its election observation to the participation of women and minority groups, as well as people with disabilities both as candidates and voters.

The EU will continue to systematise the follow-up use of EU EOMs and their reports in support of dialogue with third countries, the whole electoral cycle, and to ensure effective implementation of EOMs' recommendations and reports by other election observation bodies (e.g. the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe/Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE/ODIHR). This is a shared goal of the Council, the European Parliament, the Commission and the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

There is a clear need to improve follow-up on EOMs recommendations. Findings need to be presented and discussed with partner countries' institutions and with civil society, and partner countries need support to meet their international and regional commitments.

These follow-up missions must be financed. The follow-up process needs to start immediately in the post-election period to seize potential opportunities for dialogue with the new legislature. These are often very short windows of opportunity, requiring continuous monitoring to catch them. Regional organisations will need to be involved in this dialogue process, in particular those that observe elections themselves.

The EIDHR will work to support the UN Declaration of principles for international election observation, endorsed by the EU. It will continue its cooperation with other bodies experienced in electoral observation, such as the OSCE, to maintain standards, develop observation capacity and make best use of resources. The EIDHR will particularly contribute to capacity-building through further support for training and networking at regional level.

Results to be achieved:

1. increased transparency and confidence of domestic and international stakeholders in the election process observed;
2. formulation of recommendations to improve the election framework in countries where EOMs or EEMs are deployed;
3. improvements made to the electoral process in third countries following the implementation of recommendations formulated by EOMs or EEMs.

Objective 5 — Support to targeted key actors and processes, including international and regional human rights instruments and mechanisms

The general aims of this objective are to strengthen international and regional frameworks to protect and promote human rights, justice and the rule of law, and to increase promotion of democracy, in accordance with the Common Implementing Regulation⁵² and EU policy priorities. Special attention will be given to human rights dialogues (in line with the relevant EU guidelines⁵³) and civil society promotion and monitoring of the implementation of universally and regionally recognised human rights instruments and mechanisms. Support will be provided for:

- **the implementation of universal and regional human rights instruments and mechanisms**, through the annual contribution to support operations of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and targeted support for:
 - (i) appropriate UN agencies, bodies and mechanisms;
 - (ii) other international and regional frameworks to protect and promote human rights, justice, the rule of law and democracy; and
 - (iii) national human rights institutions and bodies.

⁵² OJ L 77/11, 15.3.2014, Article 6(1)(c), p.7.

⁵³ http://eeas.europa.eu/human_rights/guidelines/dialogues/docs/16526_08_en.pdf.

- **international criminal justice mechanisms**, in particular the International Criminal Court, but also ad hoc international criminal courts and tribunals, including cooperation between international courts and domestic courts; supporting civil society promotion of these bodies' objectives (e.g. providing outreach and assistance), including truth and reconciliation commissions;
- **regional networks for training** of human rights specialists through support for training of practitioners and operating costs of the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation (EUIC) and support for its global network of regional master's degree in human rights and democratisation; and
- **human rights dialogues**. These political dialogues have a key role in the EU's bilateral and regional engagement on human rights with partner countries and organisations. They address the whole spectrum of EIDHR priority themes, including civil, political, socio-economic and cultural rights, the death penalty, torture, non-discrimination, multilateral aspects, etc. They, and in particular follow-up to them, must therefore be given EIDHR support, particularly in mobilising expertise and civil society input. EIDHR activities will aim to strengthen civil society involvement in preparing for and following up on human rights dialogues through, for example, mobilising experts and organising civil society seminars at local and regional level, linked to the formal human rights dialogues.

Results to be achieved:

1. increased engagement with and support for international, regional and national human rights bodies and mechanisms;
2. increased impact of and capacity in national human rights institutions and bodies for promoting and protecting human rights at national, regional and global levels;
3. intensified promotion of ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute, including building capacity in specialised legal institutions and providing more support for outreach activity by international courts and tribunals;
4. increased knowledge, skills and expertise in post-graduate students in the area of human rights and democratisation, through supporting a worldwide network of universities;
5. increased civil society contribution to EU human rights dialogues.

7. Eligibility

The bodies and actors eligible for EIDHR funding are set out in Article 11 of the Common Implementing Regulation.⁵⁴

As the EIDHR's main focus is to support the development of thriving civil society, empowering it in its quest for and defence of democracy and human rights and in its

⁵⁴ OJ 77/95, 15.3.2014.

specific role as an actor for positive change, civil society will continue to be the main recipient of EIDHR funding.

8. Implementation

Implementation, including aid modalities will be in line with the EIDHR Regulation, the Financial Regulation⁵⁵ as well as the Common Implementing Regulation. Election observation missions will be put in place in line with the EEAS' July 2010 decision.⁵⁶

The strategy is designed for a four-year period. In this period of time the worldwide human rights situation might change. Therefore, the strategy must allow for the EU response under each objective to be adjusted to take account of this, including allowing for flexibility between the objectives. A mid-term review of EIDHR implementation will take place in 2017.

All EIDHR financial allocations for 2014-17 are indicative, and are summarised in the tables in Annex II and III. Based on this, actual funding will be decided each year in the EIDHR annual action programme, taking account of demand and absorption capacity.

Part of the EIDHR funding will be channelled through the Country-Based Support Schemes (CBSS) and implemented by EU Delegations. Centrally managed calls, direct awards and targeted projects will focus either on global or regional projects or on a specific topic that can only be managed at HQ level. The CBSS, implemented according to the capacity of Delegations, will focus on a limited number of country priorities, responding to particular country needs and to the relevant priorities in the human rights country strategies. Global calls for proposals will be organised annually and managed at HQ level. While the 2007-13 EIDHR mainly used specialised annual calls, there will be in principle a recurrent EIDHR annual global call from 2015, covering EIDHR priorities in parallel, allowing for a more long-term response in each area.

Action under this plan will maintain the EIDHR's worldwide focus on small projects with high transaction costs and will ensure, to the maximum extent possible, best value for money and a lower administrative burden. It will build on existing solutions and current best practice to reduce the administrative burden of implementation, in particular for projects implemented under the CBSS.

As a reference baseline, the EIDHR portfolio between 2007 and 2013 corresponded to more than 2500 recurring and ongoing projects, with a rate of renewal of 500 projects

⁵⁵ Regulation(EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of The European Parliament and of The Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002; OJ L298, 26.10.2012.

⁵⁶ In line with the Article 9(6) of the Council Decision of 26 July 2010 establishing the organisation and functioning of the European External Action Service (2010/427/EU), (OJ L 201/30, 3.8.2010), implementation of the EOMs is the responsibility of the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy as Vice-President of the Commission and the department in charge of the implementation of foreign policy instruments.

each year. Half of these were directly managed by Delegations with HQ support. Activities will use existing flexibility as far as possible.

CBSS coverage will adapt to changes in the relevant countries relating to human rights and democracy and to the EU presence and capacity on the ground, and they will take account of demand and absorption capacity.

An indicative CBSS allocation by region is provided in Annex III.

The EIDHR will apply three additional principles where relevant:

- (i) In order to protect the beneficiaries of EIDHR funding, strict measures to ensure confidentiality and limit publicity will be adopted, at the beneficiaries' request.
- (ii) Subject to any limitations inherent in EIDHR projects' nature and objectives, participation in processes to award procurement contracts or grants and recruit experts will be open, without limitations on nationality or origin.
- (iii) Funding provided by the EIDHR is open to most legal entities, with the exception of direct funding for political parties. In addition, the EIDHR's specificity and focus on endangered and persecuted actors means that the instrument will also support natural persons and entities without legal personality.

9. Financial Allocations 2014-2017

The financial envelope for the implementation of the EIDHR for the period 2014-20 is EUR 1 332 752 000. Annual appropriations will be authorised by the budgetary authority within the limits of the 2014-20 financial framework.

Annex 2 and 3 present the indicative table of priorities, sub-objectives and allocations for 2014-17 per EIDHR objectives and regions.

The table below sets out the allocation for the different programme priorities.

	Allocation
Objective 1: <i>Support to human rights and human rights defenders in situations where they are most at risk</i>	20-25 %
Objective 2: <i>Support to other EU human rights priorities</i>	20-25 %
Objective 3: <i>Support to democracy</i>	15-20 %
Objective 4: <i>EU election observation</i>	up to 25 %
Objective 5: <i>Support to targeted key actors and processes, including international and regional human rights instruments and mechanisms</i>	5-10 %
Support measures and unallocated reserve	10 %

10. Evaluation and mid-term review

In line with Article 17 of the Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action,⁵⁷ the mid-term review report on EIDHR implementation will be submitted by the Commission by 31 December 2017. The report will cover the period from 1 January 2014 to 30 June 2017 and will focus on the achievement of the EIDHR objectives by assessing indicators measuring the results delivered and the EIDHR's efficiency.

The mid-term review will form the basis for the next EIDHR strategy paper covering the period 2018-20. It will take into account recommendations from the evaluations and impact assessments carried out by that point by the European Commission and discussed with Member States, European Parliament and civil society stakeholders. All reports will be published at www.eidhr.eu.

In addition, the European Commission adopts EIDHR support measures each year, allowing the preparation, follow-up, monitoring, audit and evaluation that are directly necessary to implement the EIDHR Regulation. These will be also taken into account when preparing the second EIDHR strategy paper.

⁵⁷ OJ L77/95, 15.3.2014.

Annex 1

Objectives	Results expected	Indicators	Means of verification
<p>General Objective 1: Enhancing the respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international and regional human rights instruments, and strengthening their protection, promotion, implementation and monitoring, mainly through support to relevant civil society organisations, human rights defenders and victims of repression and abuse.</p>		<p>1) Ratification status of the 18 international human rights treaties and optional protocols 2) Level of implementation of UPR recommendations which have been accepted by states.</p>	<p>1) Indicator produced by OHCHR and updated every 6 months; 2) Data from OHCHR.</p>
<p>General Objective 2 : Supporting, developing and consolidating democracy in third countries, by enhancing participatory and representative democracy, strengthening the overall democratic cycle, in particular by reinforcing an active role for civil society within this cycle, the rule of law and improving the reliability of electoral processes, in particular by means of election observation missions.</p>		<p>1) Number of electoral processes and democratic cycles supported, observed, and followed. 2) Number of EU EOMs recommendations implemented in the field.</p>	

Objectives	Results expected	Indicators	Means of verification
Specific Objective 1 -Support to human rights and human rights defenders in situations where they are most at risk			
	1) Increased number of civil society organisations whose capacity to resist, report and fight human rights abuses and to contribute to democratic reform is reinforced in countries or regions where they are most at risk.	1) Number of countries where EIDHR supports HRDs at risk through its Country Based Support Scheme (CBSS) ;;; 2) Number of countries where HRDs legislation is in place and implemented.	1) CBSS guidelines; 2) Mid-term and final external evaluation; 3) Percentage of project budgets dedicated for re-granting to grass-roots organisations and HRDs in remote areas; 4) Qualitative surveys, projects implementation reports; 5) Result oriented monitoring reports (ROMs); 6) Review of national legislation on HRDs.
	2) Increased number of HRDs operating in extreme situations whose security and safety has been ensured through protection mechanisms financed by the EIDHR.	1) Number of Human Rights Defenders (individual)being protected, inter alia legally and/or physically and pulled out of their position of abuses; 2) Number of countries where the need for protection for HRDs at risk is recognised and addressed by national authorities.	1) Projects implementation reports; 2) ROMs; 3) External evaluations; 4) National statistics on human rights abuses; 5) Reports from the UN system; 6) NHRIs reports on the situation of HRDs; 7) Independent HRDs/CSOs reports.
	3) Strengthened EU capacity to react quickly to human rights urgencies and an established comprehensive EU Human Rights Defenders mechanism.	1) Average time it takes to process requests for emergency support (measured in days starting from the moment a formal request for support has been received); 2) Number of crisis response projects implemented under the EIDHR; 3) Existence and implementation status of temporary relocation system.	1) EIDHR and DEVCO annual reports; 2) External evaluations; 3) The Common RELEX Information System (CRIS).

Objectives	Results expected	Indicators	Means of verification
Specific Objective 2 - Support to other priorities of the Union in the field of human rights			
	1) Positive impact on implementing the EU guidelines in the field of human rights and the EU Strategic Framework and Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy.	1) Number of EIDHR projects in line with EU Guidelines; 2) Number of targeted campaigns funded through EIDHR.	1) CRIS; 2) Project reports; 3) ROM reports; 4) Compendium.
	2) Increased awareness and understanding of human rights principles and instruments in all relevant thematic areas covered by this objective.	1) Number of advocacy, awareness raising, and capacity building activities supported 2) Number/frequency of international, regional and national seminars/workshops/training event supported to intensify engagement of civil society organisations 3) Number of participants trained on human rights standards through EIDHR funded projects.	1) CRIS; 2) Project reports; 3) ROM reports; 4) Compendium.
	3) Increased compliance with human rights obligations under international law, key international human rights treaties and commitments, including regional human rights instruments.	1) Number of states that have introduced or modified national laws in compliance with ratified international & regional Conventions and related optional Protocols.	1) UN Website; 2) Reviews; 3) UPR recommendations.
	4) Increased number of human rights organisations and defenders able to effectively address human rights violations, including through redress possibilities.	1) Number of HR victims benefitting from EIDHR projects 2) Numbers of submissions/interventions/complaints related to HR violations to the international/regional/national bodies.	1) CRIS; 2) Project reports; 3) ROM reports; 4) Compendium; 5) Data from UN and regional mechanisms.

	5) Improved visibility of EU thematic campaigns in human rights areas covered by this objective.	1. Number of targeted campaigns and advocacy activities under EIDHR projects; 2) Number of communication supports funded through EIDHR (websites, newsletters, reports, leaflets) including the provision of detailed information on human rights.	Project reports.
Objectives	Results expected	Indicators	Means of verification
Specific Objective 3 - Support to democracy			
	1) Positive impact on domestic accountability, rule of law and effective oversight.	<p>Indicator 1</p> <p>a) Number of Democracy Pilot Countries that have improved their V-DEM Electoral Democracy Index</p> <p>b) Number of Democracy Pilot Countries that have improved their Transparency International Corruption Perception Index</p> <p>c) Number of Domestic Observers trained with EIDHR funding for domestic election observation.</p>	<p>1) CRIS data and EAMRs</p> <p>2) EU EOM Reports and their recommendations</p> <p>3) EOM follow up reports</p> <p>4) EU democracy profiles</p> <p>5) EU Budget Support Risk Management Framework and Fundamental Values Assessment</p> <p>6) Varieties of Democracy indicators (on executive, parliament, judiciary, political parties, media, civil society, etc.)</p> <p>7) Reports by International IDEA</p> <p>8) Independent HRDs/CSOs reports.</p>

	<p>2) Positive impact on representative democracy, as pluralistic, inclusive, and participatory.</p>	<p>Indicator 2: a) Number of positive assessment of credibility and transparency of elections by EU/OSCE/domestic Electoral Observation Missions; b) Number of Democracy Pilot Countries which have improved their score in the Press Freedom Index.</p>	<p>1) EU/OSCE/Domestic EOM Reports and their recommendations and follow-up 2) EU democracy profiles 3) EU Budget Support Risk Management Framework and Fundamental Values Assessment 4) Freedom House index - freedom of expression 5) Reporters without Borders – Press Freedom Index.</p>
	<p>3) Positive impact on transparency, oversight and access to information.</p>	<p>Indicator 3 a) Number of countries that perform better on the World Bank Voice and Accountability Indicator b) Number of household internet connections per country.</p>	<p>1) Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI) - sub-indicator on voice and accountability 2) EU Budget Support Risk management framework and Fundamental Values Assessment 3) International Telecommunication Union World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database.</p>
	<p>4) Positive impact on implementation of the Agenda for Action from the 2009 Council Conclusions on democracy support, in particular in pilot countries.</p>	<p>Indicator 4: a) Number of democracy profiles, and democracy support action plans produced; b) Number of actions of the democracy support action plans implemented.</p>	<p>1) EU democracy profiles and democracy support action plans 2) Reports on implementation of democracy action plans 3) CRIS data and EAMRs 4) Project data.</p>

Objectives	Results expected	Indicators	Means of verification
Specific Objective 4 - EU EOMs			
	1) Increased transparency and confidence of domestic and international stakeholders in the election process observed.	Indicator 1: EU capacity to support and assess democratic and electoral processes expressed in number of experts trained.	1) EODS project; 2) External evaluation.
	2) Formulation of recommendations to improve the election framework in countries where EOMs or EEMs are deployed.	Indicator 2: Number of electoral processes and democratic cycles supported, observed, and followed by means of Election Observation Missions, Election Assessment Teams. Indicator 3: Number of Election Experts Missions which propose recommendations to the host country.	1) CRIS; 2) Annual Reports.
	3) Improvements made to the electoral process in third countries following the implementation of recommendations formulated by EOMs or EEMs.	Indicator 4: Number of Election Follow-up Missions (post-election expert missions) deployed in countries after an Election Observation Mission, Election Expert Missions or Election Assessment Teams or and other tools (such as HoMs reports, political dialogue with country) to assess the implementation of recommendations.	1) CRIS; 2) Annual Report; 3) External evaluation.

Objectives	Results expected	Indicators	Means of verification
Specific Objective 5 - Support to targeted key actors and processes, including international and regional human rights instruments and mechanisms			
	1) Increased engagement with and support for international, regional and national human rights bodies and mechanisms.	1) Number of key actors supported, in particular international, regional and national organisations 2) Number of HR CSOs and HRDs submitting contributions to the UPR process, to UN treaty bodies and special procedures.	1) Projects reports; 2) Data from regional organisations; 3) OHCHR data on UPR process.
	2) Increased impact of and capacity in national human rights institutions and bodies for promoting and protecting human rights at national, regional and global levels.	1) Number of National Human Rights Institutions abiding by the Paris Principles; 2) Number of training events and workshops on thematic matters and capacity-building of relevance for NHRIs funded through EIDHR.	1) Websites and reports of the OHCHR and the ICC Secretariat of NHRIs; 2) Participant lists, agendas, training material, interim and final reports, evaluation forms.
	3) Intensified promotion of ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute, including building capacity in specialised legal institutions and providing more support for outreach activity by international courts and tribunals.	1) Number of legal professionals received training on international criminal justice supported by EIDHR 2) Number of courts, tribunals and CSOs that have received support for conducting activities in the area of international and transitional justice. 3) Number of stakeholders that have benefited from outreach activities on international justice funded by the EU.	1) Government, NGO and media reports; 2) UPR review and UN treaty recommendations; 3) Stakeholders and Beneficiaries reports; 4) Media reports; 5) Independent HRDs/CSOs reports.

	<p>4) Increased knowledge, skills and expertise in post-graduate students in the area of human rights and democratisation, through supporting a worldwide network of universities.</p>	<p>1) Number of students enlisting and graduating from the Regional Masters Degrees offered by the European Inter-University Centre and the Global Campus 2) Number of alumni working in the field of human rights and democratisation</p>	<p>1) EIDHR project data and reports 2) EIUC and Global Campus Alumni surveys.</p>
	<p>5) Increased civil society's contributions to EU human rights dialogues.</p>	<p>1) Number of CSOs seminars financed under the EIDHR and organised in the framework of formal human rights dialogues between the EU and third countries or regional organisations 2) Number of CSO recommendations presented during the formal EU human rights dialogues 3) Extent to which feedback/evaluation of civil society seminars are taken into account for future planning of seminars.</p>	<p>1) Websites and reports of the OHCHR and the ICC Secretariat of NHRIs; 2) Participant lists, agendas, training material, interim and final reports, evaluation forms.</p>

Annex 2

Indicative table of priorities, sub-objectives and allocations per EIDHR Objectives

Objective	Total in million Euros for 2014-2017
Objective 1: Support to human rights and human rights defenders in situations where they are most at risk (20-25%)	150
Support to CSOs in situations most at risk	100
Emergency support to HRDs	5
Facility for countries where call for proposals are not possible	15
EU HRDs mechanism and city shelters	30
Objective 2: Support to other EU human rights priorities (20-25%)	180
Human dignity and impunity	77
Non-discrimination (including women and children)	60
Economic and social rights	33
IHL and other emerging human rights priorities	10
Objective 3: Support to democracy (15-20%)	126
Political society and pluralism	30
Domestic accountability, observation and civic education	46
Fundamental freedoms (including media, freedom of expression and assembly)	30
Parliaments	20
Objective 4: EU election observation (up to 25%)	166.3
Objective 5: Support to targeted key actors and processes, including international and regional human rights instruments and mechanisms (5-10%)	69
Direct beneficiaries as set out in the regulation	40
Other targeted projects	23
HR dialogues	6
Support measures	6.4
Total without objective 4	531.4
GRAND TOTAL	697.7

Annex 3

Indicative table of allocations per region for the EIDHR Country Based Support Scheme (CBSS)

Region	Total amount in Million Euros for 2014-2017
Western Balkans & Turkey	29.6
Neighborhood countries	76.9
Central & Latin America	41.2
ACP	124.5
Asia & Central Asia	65
<i>TOTAL</i>	337.2