



The Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network

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Presentation Outline

- Human Rights Mechanisms in EU-South Mediterranean Countries Relations, especially with Lebanon
- Contributing to Implementing these Mechanisms: How Can NGOs Act?

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Human Rights Mechanisms in EU-South Mediterranean Relations

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EU-Mediterranean Countries Relations

- The Euro Mediterranean Partnership (EMP)
- The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)
- The EU Strategic Partnership with the Mediterranean and the Middle East

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EMP The Euro Mediterranean Partnership /Barcelona Process

10 Mediterranean Countries and 25 EU Member States

Objectives of the Barcelona Declaration, 1995

- *"an area of dialogue, exchange and cooperation guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity"*
- *"requires a strengthening of democracy and respect for Human rights"*

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EMP 3 Chapters, 2 Dimensions, 1 Financial Cooperation Instrument

3 Chapters


- Political and Security Issues
- Economic and Financial Matters
- Social, Cultural and Human Affairs

2 Dimensions

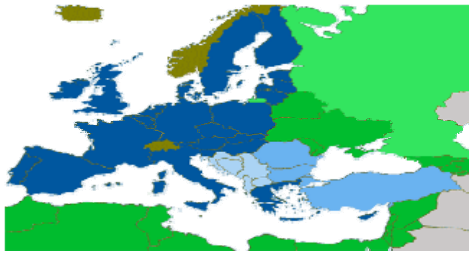
- Multilateral/Regional Cooperation on common issues
- Bilateral/Based on Association Agreements

1 Specific Financial Cooperation Instrument: MEDA

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The European Neighbourhood Policy



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ENP Objectives

Launched in 2003 by the EU

- To create a 'ring of friends' around the EU
- "To share benefits of the EU's 2004 enlargement"
- "To strengthen Security, Stability, Well-being"
- "To develop a mutual commitment to common values" especially the rule of law, good governance, respect for HR
- To enhance economic relations and closer cooperation
- Access to EU internal market ?

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ENP Principles

- Voluntary Basis
- Differentiated and Progressive approach
according to the 'degree of commitment to common values as well as the capacity to implement jointly agreed priorities'
- "Positive conditionality"
Monitoring process of implementation with a financial incentive: future European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) + Democracy Facility(?)


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ENP Means

- Bilateral approach
- Country Reports**
 - EU analysis of the current political and economic situation
 - Basis for the development and assessment of the APs
- Action Plans**
 - Jointly agreed political documents
 - Define short and medium term priorities for reforms
- Toward European Neighbourhood Agreements ?**

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ENP Action plans

- Build on Association Agreements
- Commitment to "Common Values"
 - Including rule of law, democracy, respect of HR
 - References to the Barcelona Declaration Principles
- Priorities
 - Political dialogue and reforms, incl. HR
 - Economic and social reform
 - Trade
 - Migration, Justice and Home affairs
 - Transport, energy, information society, environment
 - Cooperation with civil society
 - Cross-border and regional cooperation

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ENP First Country Reports /APs

- Among the Euro-Med partners:
 - Morocco
 - Tunisia
 - Jordan
 - Israel
 - Palestinian Authority
- Countries reports issued on 12/05 /2004
- Action Plans presented on 9/12/2004
- 2005 Start of negotiations with Egypt
- 2006 Start of negotiations with Lebanon

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ENP EU Country Report on Lebanon

- Issued on 2/03/05
- EU's view of the current situation in Lebanon on:
 - Political Issues including Democracy, Rule of Law, HR
 - Economic and Social Situation

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ENP EU-Lebanon Action Plan

- Negotiations formally started in April 2006
- AP expected to be adopted soon
- Priorities :
 - Political dialogue
 - Including democracy, rule of law, administration of justice, HR
 - Cooperation on foreign and security policy
 - Economic and social development
 - Transport, environment, information society, research and innovation
 - Justice and home affairs, migrations
 - People-to-people contacts

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How to Act on the EU Human Rights Mechanisms?

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The EU System

1st Pillar

Community

Decision at Majority of Member states

-Economic matters
- Social, cultural and human matters

2nd Pillar

Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP)

Unanimity of MS

-Political and security dimension

3rd Pillar

Cooperation in Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)

Unanimity of MS

-Social, cultural and human matters

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EU Institutions

- European Council
- Council of the European Union
- European Commission
- European Parliament
- European Court of Justice

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European Council

□ Composition

25 Heads of States and Governments

□ Competences

Sets the general political orientations of EU policies

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Council of the European Union Composition

□ Presidency

Troika headed by:

- Austria Jan./June 2006
- Finland July/Dec 2006
- Germany Jan./June 2007
- Portugal July/Dec 2007

□ Ministers of the 25 Member States

Eg: General affairs Council
External relations Council
(Ministers of Foreign Affairs)

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Council of the European Union Competences

- Legislative body
- Decision making body regarding EU foreign policies
- Conclusion of international agreements
- Adoption of ENP Action Plans
- *Instruments:*
 - Regulations, directives, decisions, common actions, common positions, recommendations, opinions, conclusions, declarations, resolutions, demarches
 - HR Guidelines on :
HR defenders, Death Penalty, Torture, HR dialogues with third countries, Children in armed conflict

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Council of the European Union Assisted by:

- General Secretariat of the Council
- COREPER

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Council of the European Union General Secretariat of the Council

- Secretary General/High representative for the CFSP: Mr. Solana
With a Personal Representative for HR: Mr. Matthiesen
- Council Secretariat Staff
 - Policy Unit
 - Unit Middle East, Mediterranean, Barcelona Process

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Council of the European Union COREPER

- Representatives of the Member States to prepare the work of Ministers:
 - in Permanent Representations of the MS in Brussels
 - In MS Foreign Affairs Ministries
 - in MS Embassies in third countries
- Divided into Working Groups
Eg:
 - COHOM for HR
 - Maghreb-Mashrek Group

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European Commission Composition

- **President:** Mr. Barroso
- **25 Commissioners**
Ms. Benita Ferrero-Waldner, External relations and ENP
- **24 Directorates General**
DG Relex
DG for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO)
- **EuroAid**
- **EC Delegations** in third countries

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European Commission Competences

- ❑ Proposes EU legislation and policies
- ❑ Executive body
- ❑ Proposes EU Budget
- ❑ Negotiates agreements with third countries (AA)
- ❑ Negotiates and monitors implementation of APs
- ❑ Prepares and follow up meetings of EMP
- ❑ Manages EU assistance to third countries
- ❑ Develops country strategies, NIPs et RIPs

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European Commission Directorate General "Relex"

"Political Direction" on EU Foreign Affairs

- ❑ Policy issues
- ❑ Programming of Aid in Programme documents:
Country Strategy Papers and National Indicative Programmes (NIP)
Regional Strategy Papers and Regional Indicative Programmes (RIP)
- ❑ Communications:
Eg: "The EU Role in Promoting HR and democratisation in third countries" 2001
"Strategic guidelines for reinvigorating EU actions on HR and democratisation with Mediterranean partners" 2003

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European Commission EuropeAid Office de Co-operation

Manages EU Assistance to third countries

- ❑ Annual financing plan based on NIP/RIP
- ❑ Managing MEDA and EIDHR Projects

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European Commission Delegations

- ❑ The new role of the Delegations in the de-concentration reform
- ❑ Responsibilities of the Delegations :
 - Represent EU Commission in third countries
 - Increased role on the ground in countries in EU policy making
 - Manages budget lines for MEDA HR and civil society and EIDHR micro-projects
 - Reports on political developments and HR

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European Parliament Composition

- ❑ 732 Members (MEP) gathered in 7 political groups
- ❑ **Parliamentary Committees**
Eg: Committee on Foreign Affairs
Sub Committee on HR
- ❑ **Inter-parliamentary delegations**
Eg: Maghreb, Mahsrek, Israel,
Palestinian Legislative Council, Turkey
- ❑ EP delegation to EMPA

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European Parliament Competences

- ❑ Co-legislative body on first pillar issues
- ❑ Only advisory role in Foreign affairs' issues
Except:
 - Co-budgetary authority
 - Assent for agreements with third countries
- ❑ **Instruments:**
Reports, resolutions, hearings, oral and written questions, missions (elections)

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EU Funding for Human Rights and Democracy Projects

Currently:

- MEDA
- EIDHR

After 2007:

- European Neighbourhood and
Partnership Instrument
- Democracy facility (?)
- EIDHR (?)

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Thank You for Your Attention

Supported by a grant from Foundation Open Society Institute (Zug)
and the European Commission

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