

Background note



The seminar organised on ***The new European Union architecture in the field of human rights*** is aiming at reflecting on the consequences of the Lisbon Treaty on the EU human rights/fundamental rights policies and structures.

The entry into force of the Fundamental Rights Charter, the envisaged EU accession to the European Convention on Human Rights, as well as the overarching mandate of the HR/VP and the forthcoming creation of the EEAS, all constitute important new developments with a considerable impact upon the EU's human rights policy.

A special attention will be paid to the new legal architecture, the new structures and their respective functions, and the necessary coherence of the policies and instruments in the EU's internal and external action following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty.

The seminar will gather members of the European Commission, the Council, the Parliament as well as members of other international organisations, civil society and university representatives.

Participation in the seminar is upon invitation only.

Programme

 **EIUC** The European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation (EIUC) is a main European academic institution supported by the European Union to pursue the continued promotion of human rights and democratisation through education, specialised training, research cooperation, and an expanding range of other activities. EIUC is committed to fostering a community of leaders with professional competence, problem-solving capacities and creativity to improve human rights implementation worldwide. EIUC is an interdisciplinary Centre formed by 41 European universities.

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EUROPEAN UNION

 **EIUC**
*European Inter - University Centre
for Human Rights and Democratisation*

SEMINAR

**The new
European Union
architecture
in the field
of human rights**

6 May 2010

**Martin's Central Park
Boulevard Charlemagne 80
1000 Brussels**

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The new European Union architecture in the field of human rights

6 May 2010, Martin's Central Park, Boulevard Charlemagne 80, 1000 Brussels



Programme

9.15 – 9.30 Opening

VÉRONIQUE ARNAULT, Director,
RELEX, European Commission
HORST FISCHER, Professor,
Ruhr-University Bochum, EIUC President

Moderator: ROLF TIMANS, Head of Human Rights Unit, RELEX, European Commission

9.30 – 10.30:

The new legal architecture following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty

- Which norms will regulate the European Union human rights action?

- The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union
- Accession to the ECHR
- Legal basis for external action
- EU normative acquis

Keynote speech: JEAN-PAUL JACQUÉ, Professor Emeritus, Université de Strasbourg, EIUC, Honorary Director General, Council of the EU

Round table:

- EMMANUEL CRABIT, Deputy Head of Fundamental Rights and Rights of the Child Unit, JLS, European Commission
- CLEMENS LADENBURGER, Legal Service, European Commission
- CHRISTOS GIAKOUMOPOULOS, Director of Monitoring, DG of Human Rights and Legal Affairs, Council of Europe

10.45 – 12.00:

The new structures and their respective functions

Internal structures

- Commission: VP Reding - JLS - EMPL-...
- Council
- EU Agency for Fundamental Rights
- European Parliament (LIBE)

External structures

- HR/VP Ashton and her services (future EEAS)
- Commission: DEV - EUROPEAID - TRADE...
- European Parliament (DROI)

Keynote speech: OLIVIER DE SCHUTTER, Professor, Université Catholique de Louvain, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food

Round table:

- BELINDA PYKE, Director EMPL
- GABRIEL TOGGENBURG, EU Agency for Fundamental Rights
- ENGELBERT THEUERMANN, Council Working group on Human Rights, Austria
- ZDIZSLAW KEDZIA, Professor, University of Poznan, EIUC
- WOLFGANG BENEDEK, University of Graz, EIUC

12.00 – 12.45 Debate

12.45 – 14.15 Lunch

14.15 – 16.15

Coherence of policies and instruments

Moderator: JEAN-PAUL JACQUÉ,

Professor Emeritus, Université de Strasbourg, EIUC

- EU internal action: are human rights respected in all EU norms and programmes?
- EU external action: coherence between EU policies and the UN action, EU policies and other European organisations, in bilateral relationships (human rights clauses, political dialogue, programmes, etc.)

Introductory remarks: HEIDI HAUTALA, Chair of the Subcommittee on Human Rights, European Parliament

Keynote speech: MARC FRANCO, Head of EU Delegation in Egypt, European Commission

Round table:

- RIINA KIONKA, Head of Human Rights Unit, Council
- CHARLES-MICHEL GEURTS, Deputy Head of Human Rights Unit, RELEX, European Commission
- LOTTE LEICHT, Human Rights Watch
- JAN WOUTERS, Professor, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, EIUC
- FABRIZIO MARRELLA, Professor, Ca' Foscari University of Venice, EIUC

16.30 – 17.00: Conclusions

Does the new architecture allow for the definition of a coherent global vision?

VÉRONIQUE ARNAULT, Director, RELEX, European Commission

- Coherence between the internal and external action of the EU
- Avoiding double-standards
- Instruments' efficiency