

OMCT-Europe Weekly Newsletter 2008-25

15-22.09.08

REGIONS:

AFRICA

European Parliament resolution of 4 September 2008 on the coup in Mauritania
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2008-0411+0+DOC+XML+Vo//EN&language=EN>

European Parliament resolution of 4 September 2008 on the killing of albinos in Tanzania
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2008-0413+0+DOC+XML+Vo//EN&language=EN>

Conclusions du Conseil sur la Somalie:
http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/fr/gena/102735.pdf

Conclusions du conseil sur le Zimbabwe:
http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/fr/gena/102741.pdf

EU maintains Zimbabwe sanctions despite power-sharing deal - 16.09.2008 - 09:27
EU foreign ministers have decided to maintain sanctions against Zimbabwe in place, despite Robert Mugabe, the country's president for almost three decades, agreeing to share power with his political rivals. Ministers will revisit the issue in October.
<http://euobserver.com/9/26747?rk=1>

Déclarations dans le cadre de la politique étrangère et de sécurité commune (PESC):
Declaration on political prisoners in Eritrea:
http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/cfsp/102830.pdf

AMERICAS

2. Cuba takes step to normalise ties with EU - 17.09.2008 - 09:19

Following the landfall of two of the most destructive hurricanes in Cuba's history, causing an estimated \$5 billion in damage, the country has conditionally accepted an European union's offer from June to breathe life into mutual political ties.
<http://euobserver.com/9/26756?rk=1>

ASIA

Déclarations dans le cadre de la politique étrangère et de sécurité commune (PESC):
Déclaration au sujet de la situation à Mindanao:
http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/fr/cfsp/102750.pdf

Déclarations dans le cadre de la politique étrangère et de sécurité commune (PESC):
Déclaration sur l'assassinat de trois jeunes filles au Pakistan:
http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/fr/cfsp/102747.pdf

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EUROPE (INCLUDING) AND CIS

Netherlands blocks EU-Serbia trade deal - 15.09.2008 - 23:26

EU foreign ministers meeting in Brussels on Monday failed to unfreeze the trade related part of a pre-accession deal with Serbia, following the Netherlands' opposition. The Hague wants that Serbia first cooperates fully with the UN war crimes tribunal, estimating that the arrest of top fugitive Radovan Karadzic was not enough in this respect.

<http://euobserver.com/9/26743/?rk=1>

Conclusions du conseil sur la Géorgie:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/fr/gena/102745.pdf

Conclusions du conseil sur la Biélorussie:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/fr/gena/102743.pdf

Belarus opposition leader urges EU caution - 16.09.2008 - 19:19

The EU should not be fooled by cosmetic political reforms in Belarus, opposition leader Alexander Kazulin warned MEPs and press on Tuesday, one day after EU foreign ministers expressed readiness to relax sanctions.

<http://euobserver.com/9/26751/?rk=1>

Question marks remain over EU's Georgia mission - 15.09.2008 - 23:22

The European Union has given its green light to a civilian mission to Georgia. But a question mark remains over whether some 200 EU observers will dare to operate in the entire country, including its breakaway regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, now under Russia's protection.

<http://euobserver.com/9/26741/?rk=1>

Javier SOLANA, EU HR Javier Solana welcomes the appointment of Hansjörg HABER as Head of the EU Monitoring Mission in **Georgia**:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/esdp/102810.pdf

Tenth meeting of the Cooperation Council between the European Union and Kazakhstan, Brussels, 16 September 2008, PRESS RELEASE:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/er/102758.pdf

Eighth meeting of the Cooperation Council between the European Union and the Republic of **Uzbekistan** - Brussels, 16 September 2008:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/er/102762.pdf

Human rights take back seat at EU-Central Asia talks - 19.09.2008 - 16:56

EU and Central Asian foreign ministers pledged to work together on new gas pipelines and counter-terrorism at a meeting in Paris on Thursday, with the problem of grave human rights abuses in the region pushed down the agenda.

<http://euobserver.com/9/26778/?rk=1>

Czech republic seeks EU institute on totalitarianism - 19.09.2008 - 09:29

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The Czech Republic, sitting at the EU's helm from January 2009, is to seek the establishment of a new European body that could serve as a research institute into totalitarianism and a museum of victims of totalitarian regimes, with Nazi and Communist victims to be remembered every 23 August.

<http://euobserver.com/9/26773/?rk=1>

Danes face jail for 'terrorism' T-shirts - 19.09.2008 - 09:19

Six young Danes face jail after selling T-shirts to finance Colombian and Palestinian groups listed as terror organisations by the European Union.

<http://euobserver.com/9/26774/?rk=1>

MAGHREB AND MIDDLE EAST

European Parliament resolution of 4 September 2008 on the situation of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2008-0404+0+DOC+XML+Vo//EN&language=EN>

European Parliament resolution of 4 September 2008 on executions in Iran

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2008-0412+0+DOC+XML+Vo//EN&language=EN>

Déclarations dans le cadre de la politique étrangère et de sécurité commune (PESC)

Human rights situation in Syria:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/cfsp/102845.pdf

THEMATIC:

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

Equal Chances for Europe's Roma - 16.09.2008 - 18:25

Real change for Europe's close to nine million Roma will only materialise once the issue of their exclusion moves from the margins of social debate to the center of policy-making, argues the Czech minister for human rights, Džamila Stehliková, and World Bank vice-president for Europe Shigeo Katsu.

<http://euobserver.com/9/26752/?rk=1>

EXTERNAL RELATIONS & DEVELOPMENT-RELATED ISSUES

European Parliament resolution of 4 September 2008 on the evaluation of EU sanctions as part of the EU's actions and policies in the area of human rights

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<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2008-0405+0+DOC+XML+Vo//EN&language=EN>

EV / VN

EV facing 'slow motion crisis' in VN - 17.09.2008 - 09:23

The EU is losing its ability to push through human rights projects at the UN, with Islamic, African and Latin American states increasingly alienated from Europe and with Russia and China playing a more assertive role, a new study says.

<http://euobserver.com/9/26757/?rk=1>

MISCELLANEOUS

Major lobby firms set to join EU register - 16.09.2008 - 10:40

Brussels' biggest lobbying companies are likely to join the European Commission's new register by the end of September, but worries remain about client confidentiality and the details of financial disclosure.

<http://euobserver.com/9/26744/?rk=1>

[Comment] How Europarl TV develops will be the test - 18.09.2008 - 17:48

EuroparlTV - the European Parliament's new TV station was launched on Wednesday. In this article Peter Sain ley Berry welcomes the station but argues that independent funding would have given the station more freedom to report in the public interest and would have allowed a broader focus than one confined to the interests of Parliament alone.

<http://euobserver.com/9/26772/?rk=1>