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*Subcommittee on Human Rights*

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**DROI\_PV(2019)1008\_1**

**MINUTES**

Meeting of 8 October 2019, 10.00-12.30

BRUSSELS

The meeting opened at 10.06 on Tuesday, 8 October 2019, with Irina Von Wiese (1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair) presiding.

**8 October 2019, 9.00 – 12.00**

**1. Adoption of agenda**

DROI\_OJ (2019)1008\_1

The agenda was adopted in the form shown in these minutes.

**2. Chair's announcements**

No announcements were made.

**3. Approval of minutes of meetings**

- 9 September 2019

PV – PE641.125v01-00

The minutes were approved.

**4. Exchange of views with Sakharov Prize winners Salih Osman (Sudan) and Lorent Saleh (Venezuela)**

**Speakers:** Irina Von Wiese, Salih Osman (Sudan), Lorent Saleh (Venezuela), Isabel Wiseler-Lima, Isabel Santos, Bettina Vollath, Heidi Hautala, Peter van Dalen, Phil Bennion.

**5. Human rights and democracy in the world and the European Union's policy on the matter – annual report 2018**

AFET/9/01369

Rapporteur:

Isabel Wiseler-Lima (PPE)

PR – PE641.241v02-00

- Consideration of draft report
- Deadline for tabling amendments: **22 October 2019, 12.00**

**Speakers:** Irina Von Wiese, Isabel Wiseler-Lima, Andrea Cozzolino, Hannah Neumann, Luisa Ragher (Head of Human Rights Division, EEAS).

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The meeting adjourned at 12.01 and resumed at 12.05 with Maria Arena (Chair) presiding.

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**8 October 2019, 12.00 – 12.30**

*In camera*

**6. Coordinators' meeting**

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**7. Any other business**

**8. Next meetings**

- 11 November 2019, 15.00 – 18.30 (Brussels)
- 12 November 2019, 9.00 – 12.30 and 14.30 – 18.30 (Brussels)

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The meeting closed at 13.00.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/  
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATAΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/  
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/POPIS NAZOČNIH/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRŠ/DALYVIŲ SAŖAŠAS/  
JELENĹTI ÍV/REGĪSTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/  
LISTÁ DE PREZENŤA/PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÁSNÁOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezidium/Birou/Předsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)	
Maria Arena (P), Irina Von Wiese (1 <sup>st</sup> VP), Hannah Neumann (2 <sup>nd</sup> VP), Karoline Edtstadler (3 <sup>rd</sup> VP), Raphaël Glucksmann (4 <sup>th</sup> VP)	
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/ Kérviselek/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter	
Phil Bennion, Lars Patrick Berg, Andrea Cozzolino, Charles Goerens, Heidi Hautala, Karol Karski, David Lega, Nacho Sánchez Amor, Isabel Santos, Peter van Dalen, Isabel Wiseler-Lima	
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter	
Neena Gill, Seán Kelly, Stelios Kympouropoulos, María Soraya Rodríguez Ramos, Bettina Vollath	

209 (7)	
216 (3)	
56 (8) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/ Päevakorra punkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημείο/Agenda item/Point OJ/Τοčka dnevnog reda/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkēs punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt Agenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Τοčka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Föredragningslista punkt)	
Salih Osman (Sudan) and Lorent Saleh (Venezuela), Sakharov Prize winners	Item 4

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Promatrači/Osservatori/Novērotāji/Stebėtojai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Observatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Orazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Εσιμεhe kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Sur l'invitation du président/Na poziv predsjednika/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/Fuq stedina tač-'Chairman'/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitația președintelui/Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nōukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Vijeće/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (\*)

Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Euroopa Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Komisija/Commissione/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (\*)

Други институции/Otras instituciones/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner/Andere Organe/Muud institutsioonid/Άλλα θεσμικά όργανα/Other institutions/Autres institutions/Druge institucije/Altre istituzioni/Citas iestādes/Kitos institucijos/Más intézmények/Istituzjonijiet oħra/Andere instellingen/Inne instytucje/Outras Instituições/Alte instituții/Iné inštitúcie/Muut toimielimet/Andra institutioner/organ

EEAS

Adamsons (Parliamentary Affairs), Ragher (Human Rights Division)

Други учасници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης Παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Drugi sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti oħra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Inii účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppenes sekretariat/ Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats of political groups/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Tajništva klubova zastupnika/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakciju sekretoriai/ Képviseletcsoportok titkársága/Sekretarjat gruppi politici/Fractsiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristö/ Gruppenas sekretariat	
PPE	Salafranca, Virostkova
S&D	Bataille, Tua
Renew	Munoa Salaverria,
Verts/ALE	
ID	Roos
ECR	Daneczki, Van Luik
GUE/NGL	Balavoine, Vicente Moreno
NI	

Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantsleii/Γραφείο Προέδρου/President's Office/Cabinet du Président/Ured predsednika/Gabinetto del Presidente/Priekšsēdētāja kabinets/Pirmininko kabinetas/Elnöki hivatal/Kabinett tal-President/Kabinet van de Voorzitter/Gabinet Przewodniczącego/Gabinete do Presidente/Cabinet Preşedinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli	
Girbea	
Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/ Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du Secrétaire général/Ured glavnog tajnika/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generälsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/ Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ġenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/ Generalsekreterarens kansli	
Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/ Directorate-General/Direction générale/Glavna uprava/Direzione generale/Generäldirektoräts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/ Direktorat Ġenerali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat	
DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG EPRS DG COMM DG PERS DG INLO DG TRAD DG LINC DG FINS DG ITEC DG SAFE	Christov, Hakala, Krauss, Lerch

<p>Правна служба/Service Jurídico/Právni služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Öigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/Service juridique/Pravna služba/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisės tarnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/Wydział prawny/Serviço Jurídico/Serviciu Juridic/Právny servis/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättstjänsten</p>
<p>Moore</p>
<p>Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariát výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschusssekretariat/Komisioni sekretariaat/Γραμματεία επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Secrétariat de la commission/Tajništvo odbora/Segreteria della commissione/Komitejas sekretariāts/Komiteto sekretoriatas/A bizottság titkársága/Sekretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissiesecretariaat/Sekretariat komisji/Sekretariado da comissão/Sekretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottssekretariatet</p>
<p>Alrutz, Andersson, Chikhi, Csaazi, David, Lacher, Maissony, Rieu, Shore, Waleign</p>
<p>Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asyistent/Pomočnik/Avustaja/Assisterter</p>
<p>Gössling-Wilcke</p>

- \* (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Predsjednik/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmininkas/Elnök/Chairman/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Preşedinte/Predsed/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
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**COORDINATORS' MEETING  
FINAL DECISIONS**

**25 SEPTEMBER 2019**

**I. Adoption of the draft agenda**

**II. Information from the Chair**

**DECISIONS**

**III. Appointment of the rapporteur for the Opinion on EU Viet Nam Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and EU Viet Nam Investment Protection Agreement (IPA)**

**Decision:** Coordinators decided to appoint a rapporteur (EPP) for one point.

**IV. Hearing topics for the first semester of 2020**

**Decision:** Coordinators agreed to organise the following hearings for the first semester of 2020:

**A) major hearing:**

**on “authoritarianism and shrinking space for freedom of expression, press freedom and human rights defenders”** With case studies on China, Egypt and Russia

**B) regular hearings:**

**1) on “the respect for minorities, believes and religions”**

**2) on “Migration and human rights”**

With a special focus on the situation of children in the US/Mexican border, the situation in Colombia (Venezuelan refugees) and the situation in Libya

**3) on “Business and Human Rights”**

**4) on the “Protection of environmental rights defenders”**

The focus of the other hearings will be discussed at the next Coordinators’ meeting.

**V. Mission destinations for the first semester of 2020**

**Decision:** Coordinators decided to request authorisation for the following missions:

- 1) Amazon (Brazil and another country in the region)**
- 2) China**
- 3) Turkey**

It was decided to consider missions on migration outside the EU’s immediate neighbourhood during the second semester of 2020.

**VI. United Nations’ Human Rights-related Days**

**Decision:** Coordinators agreed to mark the following international Human Rights Days:

- 1) 3 May - World Press freedom**
- 2) 20 June - World Refugee Day**
- 3) 8 March - International Women’s Day (together with FEMM)**
- 4) 19 June - International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict**
- 5) 9 August - International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples**
- 6) 10 December - Human Rights Day**



## **VII. Any other business**

- **Exchange of views**

**Decision:** Coordinators decided to organise an exchange of views on the situation in Egypt.

- **Approval of the DROI meeting calendar for the year 2020**

**Decision:** Coordinators approved the DROI meeting calendar for the year 2020.

# **COORDINATORS' MEETING FINAL DECISIONS**

**8 OCTOBER 2019**

- I. Adoption of the draft agenda**
- II. Information from the Chair**
- III. Scope of DROI hearings for the first semester of 2020**

## **A. Major hearing:**

**Authoritarianism and shrinking space for freedom of expression, press freedom and human rights defenders, with case studies on China, Egypt and Russia**

The hearing will place special emphasis on the rise of authoritarian governments and the building of policies and narratives challenging universal human rights and fundamental freedoms worldwide through the analysis of three specific countries from different continents.

## **B. Regular hearings:**

- **Respect for minorities, beliefs and religions**

Persisting discrimination, intolerance and hatred across the globe threatens to marginalise many minority group members. This hearing aims to address the situation of the rights of indigenous peoples, religious minorities and LGBTI, and to identify possible EU responses on the matter.

- **Migration and human rights**

Drawing on the situations at the border between the U.S. and Mexico, Venezuela and Colombia, Libya and Europe, the hearing will focus on the responsibility for non-respect of human rights of migrants and the specific challenges faced by vulnerable groups with a special focus on children, as well as trafficking in human beings.

- **Business and Human Rights (possibly with JURI)**

Under international human rights law, States must protect against human rights abuses by private actors, including companies who operate across borders. Steps have been undertaken to address this issue at Member States level, for instance, under the Duty of Vigilance law in France; Child Labour Due Diligence Law in The Netherlands or the UK Modern Slavery Act.

A major focus will be on how to put in place a European mandatory framework of human rights due diligence legislation, establishing the responsibility and liability of EU-based companies and their subsidiaries concerning human rights abuses and building on best practices and lessons learnt from successful experiences in the field.

- **Protection of environmental rights defenders**

Land and environmental defenders play a crucial role in defending people and ecosystems, notably in the context of a worrying surge of new conflicts over lands and resources in many countries in the world. Addressing attacks against environmental rights defenders, their root causes and their protection require a specific policy approach of states and international organisations. A major focus of the hearing will also be on how to ensure effective remedies and adequate redress for victims.

**Decision:** Coordinators agreed on the above-mentioned possibilities for the respective hearings.

#### **IV. Scope of DROI missions for the first semester of 2020**

- **Amazon (Brazil and Bolivia)**

The recent destruction of the world's biggest rainforest in the Amazon has a huge impact on the ecosystem in the region as well as across the world. The main purpose of the mission is to engage with a broad range of official and non-official actors on environmental rights, including indigenous communities, notably in the context of the ILO Convention 169.

- **China**

The purpose of the mission is to address human rights challenges on freedom of expression, minority rights, human rights defenders, new technologies and business and human rights, given China's prominent role in the world economy and global value chains.

- **Turkey** (to be closely coordinated with AFET)

The mission will focus on shrinking space for freedom of expression and civil society, minority rights, as well as the situation of refugees hosted in the country.

**Decision:** Coordinators selected Bolivia as a second destination country for the visit to the Amazon and agreed on the above-mentioned possibilities for the respective missions.

## V. Studies 2019

- Amazon: challenges for environmental and indigenous rights
- Discriminatory laws undermining women's rights
- Impact investment in the framework of business and human rights
- Biodiversity as a human right

**Decision:** Coordinators agreed to commission the above-mentioned 4 studies/in-depth analyses from the remaining 2019 budget.

## VI. Study on Combatting impunity for international crimes in third countries: lessons learnt and outlook for EU engagement - pending from previous legislature

**Decision:** Coordinators took note that the Policy Department had to cancel the contract for the study due to *force majeure* reasons.

## VII. Any other business

- **Exchange of views with Omar Shakir, Human Rights Watch Director for Israel and Palestine**

**Decision:** Coordinators agreed to invite Human Rights Watch Director Omar Shakir.

- **Exchange of view with indigenous peoples representative from Latin America (Renew's proposal)**

**Decision:** Coordinators decided to include the exchange of views on the DROI agenda of 12 November, if possible. A meeting over lunch was proposed as an alternative option.

- **Question time**

**Decision:** Coordinators agreed to include "Question time" to the EEAS/Commission in the DROI working programme.

- **Follow-up to urgency resolutions**

**Decisions:** Coordinators decided to include on the agenda follow-up to the urgency resolutions relating to China, Turkey, USA-Mexican Border and Russia.

- **EU Human Rights Dialogues**

**Decisions:** Coordinators agreed to organize a briefing before the holding of the next round of the High Level EU-Iran Human Rights Dialogue.

## **VIII. Next meeting of the Coordinators**

11/12 November (tbc)

NB. Decisions on INI reports and studies for the year 2020 will be taken in November.