

**Question for oral answer O-000227/2011  
to the Commission**

Rule 115

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on behalf of the ALDE Group

Subject: Achievements and results of the EU-Russia Human Rights Dialogue

The first round of the EU-Russia Human Rights dialogue took place in 2005 and these consultations have become a part of the EU's relations with the Russian Federation. Since 2005 the EU and Russia have embarked on a number of initiatives to relaunch and boost their relations, although the negotiations for a new cooperation agreement advance slowly.

The European Parliament has repeatedly called for reinforcement of the EU-Russia Human Rights Dialogue and for this process to be opened to effective input from the European Parliament, the State Duma, and the involvement of the respective directorates-general and ministries responsible for justice, internal affairs and foreign affairs in both Brussels and Moscow. The European Parliament has equally demanded that civil society, NGOs and human rights organisations should be more involved in the Human Rights Dialogue.

In addition, the European Parliament last year adopted a budgetary pilot project in favour of setting up a civil society forum in connection with the biannual EU-Russia Summits.

What measures has the HR/VP taken to reinforce and open up the EU-Russia Human Rights Dialogue to all stakeholders, in particular civil society organisations?

What concrete results has the Human Rights Dialogue yielded so far and what expectations do the EEAS and the HR have on this dialogue?

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