



Pledge submitted by the European Union to the Human Rights 75 Secretariat
December 2023

Original language of submission: English
Type of pledge: Single (by one state/actor)
Pledging entity: European Union

PLEDGE NUMBER 1: Continuation of EU core un-earmarked funding to OHCHR; In order to uphold its commitment to the role and independence of the OHCHR, the EU pledges to sustain its level of un-earmarked support to OHCHR in the coming years to allow for OHCHR to comply with its mandate and to pursue its efforts to mainstream human rights in all UN action.

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2026

PLEDGE NUMBER 2: EU support for OHCHR on digital and human rights; The EU commits to promote and protect digital rights. To that effect, it will keep supporting OHCHR's work to enhance the governance of the digital ecosystem, provide guidance to ensure due diligence to digital rights by States and tech companies, foster digital civic space and responsible technology development and use. It will collaborate within the United Nations and engage with States and companies in regulating digital technologies, with standard-setting bodies, and with civil society. A EUR 4 million EU contribution to OHCHR was signed for the "Promotion and protection of digital rights: a pathway to the digital future".

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2026

PLEDGE NUMBER 3: Launch of Global Initiative on Impunity: To uphold its commitment to fight against impunity for serious human rights violations worldwide, the EU will sign this week a new 20 million euro project "Global initiative to fight against impunity for international crimes: make justice work!". Supporting civil society in contributing to the primacy of international law and fighting impunity for the most serious crimes are the objectives of this four-year project spearheaded by 8 leading civil society organisations. This will complement EU support to the independent accountability mechanisms established by the Human Rights Council, and under international criminal law.

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2026

PLEDGE NUMBER 4: Continued EU support for human rights defenders: The EU is fully committed to protecting Human Rights Defenders (HRDs). Through ProtectDefenders.eu and the EU Emergency Fund, the EU has provided assistance to around 66,000 HRDs and their families since 2015, of which over 50% of the HRDs supported are women human rights defenders and gender or sexual minorities. Its activities range from direct support for individuals, groups and organisations, temporary relocation programmes and shelter initiatives, training, capacity development and outreach to the most vulnerable and

marginalised, to advocacy at global, regional and local levels. In 2023, the EU has already assisted 4,200 defenders all over the world.

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2026

PLEDGE NUMBER 5: The abolition of the Death Penalty and the eradication of Torture: The EU remains committed to the abolition of the death penalty worldwide. We pledge to strengthen partnerships to achieve this goal, both politically and through programming, namely with the CSO-led Global Consortium for Death Penalty Abolition - active in over 40 countries (EUR 3 million 2024-2026). Funded by the European Union, #UnitedAgainstTorture is a CSO partnership backed by a EUR 8 million project to catalyse a worldwide movement against torture. It resources advocacy, monitoring, research and capacity building as well as support to torture survivors, strengthening collaborations from local to global levels to implement treaty obligations and improve practices.

Expected deadline within which pledge will be realised: Dec 31, 2026