



## JO LEINEN

Member of the European Parliament

# P R E S S R E L E A S E

Brussels, 05.03.2009

### **ICC arrest warrant against president al-Bashir signal for human rights**

Over the past years Darfur tragically became a synonym for extreme violence, genocide, murder and torture. "The arrest warrant of the International Criminal Court (ICC) against president al-Bashir is a sign of hope for the people in Sudan and the Sudanese refugees in Africa, showing also that such crimes do not go unpunished", welcomed **Jo LEINEN**, member of the European Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee the latest developments.

The EU and all member states should support ICC as they did in the past, promoting the international rule of law and human rights. "It is important that the countries of the regions and members of the African Union stand united with the international community against the Sudanese president, while working together with the EU and UN to protect the Sudanese civilian population and improve their situation", said **LEINEN**.

The surrender of al-Bashir would be a positive turning point for the people in Sudan and pave the way for peace in this conflict-torn region.