

International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)

Press release

8 March 2008

Women's Rights / EU / CEDAW

Members of the European Parliament support FIDH's appeal for stronger EU action on women's rights

On the occasion of International Women's Day, 8 March 2008, 80 Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) call on the Council of the European Union for the adoption of EU Guidelines on Women's Rights.

MEPs hereby emphasise that despite commitments made by the vast majority of states to combat discrimination against women, in particular through the ratification of the UN Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), women remain victims of grave violence and discrimination in all regions of the world.

By supporting this initiative, launched by the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), MEPs recognise that concerted and systematic action by the European Union on women's rights is required, as is already undertaken within the framework of EU Guidelines on Torture, the Death Penalty, Human Rights Defenders and Children's Rights.

Please find the text of the FIDH appeal and proposed guidelines on FIDH website : <http://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/FIDHguidelinesonwomenrightsFeb08.pdf>

The full list of signatories will be available on this website on 8 March.

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