

Subcommittee on Human Rights
The Chair

DG EXPO-DROI D(2018)

To the Chair of the Committee concerned

Dear colleague,

The European Parliament proposes to bring together European and National Parliamentarians on the theme of “*Human rights and external actions of the EU and Member States*”. This meeting is organised within the Human Rights Week of the European Parliament, which will take place from 19 to 23 November 2018 to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 10 December 1948.

On this occasion the Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI) would like to invite members of national parliaments of the EU Member States to attend an inter-parliamentary committee meeting on Tuesday, 20 November 2018, from 9.00 to 12.30 in the European Parliament in Brussels. It would be of great importance and value for us to discuss experiences at national level as well as strategic action and ideas for the way forward at European level. The programme includes three thematic sessions: “Mainstreaming human rights into external action”, “Business and Human Rights” and “Sustainable development and human rights”.

We are pleased to invite up to four Members of the corresponding committee(s) of each National Parliament (two from each chamber in cases of bi-cameral parliaments) to attend this inter-parliamentary meeting. Should you and/or your Members be unable to attend, we would welcome any written contribution which would be distributed to the participants.

You are also cordially invited to attend the high level conference which will take place in the afternoon. The conference will be opened by the President of the European Parliament, Antonio Tajani. Many international dignitaries, including the Secretary-General of the United Nations António Guterres, have been invited to attend and celebrate the gift of the Universal Declaration and to help reaffirm the enduring human rights principles and standards it has helped to establish.

Practical details regarding the meetings as well as a detailed draft programme will be forwarded in due course to your Parliaments Representatives/Services responsible for relations with the European Parliament.

We sincerely hope that you will be able to accept this invitation and we are looking forward to welcoming you to the European Parliament on 20 November 2018.

Yours sincerely

Pier Antonio Panzeri