

OMCT-Europe Weekly Newsletter 2008-29

20-27.10.08

REGIONS:

AFRICA

- Opening of consultations with the ACP side on the Islamic Republic of **Mauritania** under Article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement (Paris, 20 October 2008) - Conclusions of the European Union:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/er/103514.pdf

- 14th **ECOWAS¹-EU** Ministerial Troika Meeting Ouagadougou, 23 October 2008 FINAL COMMUNIQUE:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/er/103541.pdf EN

14e réunion de la CEDEAO et de l'UE au niveau de la troïka ministérielle - Ouagadougou, le 23 octobre 2008 COMMUNIQUÉ FINAL :

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/fr/er/103542.pdf

"In the area of **HUMAN RIGHTS** and governance, the parties commended the Guinean authorities for the creation of the National Observatory of Human Rights in June 2008 and expressed their hope of seeing this body sufficiently equipped and funded to work independently."

- European Parliament resolution of 23 October 2008 on the **Democratic Republic of Congo**: clashes in the eastern border areas of the DR Congo:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2008-0526+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>

AMERICAS

- Déclaration de la présidence du Conseil de l'Union européenne sur la rencontre de la Troïka de l'Union européenne avec **Cuba** (16 octobre 2008)

http://www.eu2008.fr/PFUE/lang/fr/accueil/PFUE-10_2008/PFUE-16.10.2008/PESC_Troika_UE_Cuba

- Declaration on the adoption by the **Bolivian Congress** of the law calling a constitutional referendum (21 October 2008)

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/cfsp/103505.pdf

Situation en Bolivie :

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/fr/cfsp/103506.pdf

- Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union concerning Mr Troy Davis, sentenced to death in the **United States of America** (Georgia)

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/cfsp/103508.pdf

M. Troy Davis, condamné à mort aux Etats-Unis (Géorgie) :

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/fr/cfsp/103509.pdf

- European Parliament resolution of 23 October 2008 on political disqualifications in **Venezuela**:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2008-0525+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>

- EU and **Cuba** formally restore ties - 24.10.2008 - 09:51

¹ Economic Community of West African States

OMCT-Europe Weekly Newsletter 2008-29

20-27.10.08

The European Union has officially renewed ties with Cuba after a five-year freeze in relations and announced it will deliver millions of euros in aid to the Communist-led island
<http://euobserver.com/9/26991/?rk=1>

ASIA

- European Parliament resolution of 23 October 2008 on **Burma**:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P6-TA-2008-0527+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>

- Chair's Statement of the Seventh **Asia-Europe Meeting** - Beijing, 24-25 October 2008:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/er/103551.pdf

“Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to promoting peace and security, sustainable development and **human rights** in accordance with the UN Charter and principles of International Law. Leaders, in marking the 60th Anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights, reaffirmed their commitment to the principles contained therein. (...)

While condemning terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, leaders reaffirmed their commitment to take practical steps to prevent and combat terrorism with reference to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, underlining the need to adhere to the major UN conventions and protocols dealing with terrorism and to respect international laws, including the Charter of the United Nations, **Human Rights law**, refugee law and international humanitarian law, in the global fight against terrorism.”

EUROPE (including EU)

RUSSIA AND CENTRAL ASIA

- **EU-Russia** talks likely to resume in November - 22.10.2008 - 09:25

French president Nicolas Sarkozy and EU external relations commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner poured pressure on Europe to restart treaty negotiations with Russia despite the country's non-compliance with Georgia peace accords and strong divisions among EU states.

<http://euobserver.com/9/26972/?rk=1>

- Strained relations between Russians, EU monitors in **Georgia** - 24.10.2008 - 17:57

Russia is not informing the EU mission of their deployment of troops, nor is it allowing observers to enter Abkhazia and South Ossetia, Hansjorg Haber, the head of EU's civilian monitoring mission to Georgia (EUMM) has said.

<http://euobserver.com/9/26993/?rk=1>

MAGHREB AND MIDDLE EAST

- Summary of remarks by EU HR Javier Solana during his trip to **Damascus**:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/discours/103513.pdf

OMCT-Europe Weekly Newsletter 2008-29

20-27.10.08

THEMATIC :

JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT-RELATED ISSUES

EU/UN REFORM

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Sakharov prize awarded to Chinese dissident** - 24.10.2008 - 09:29

The jailed Chinese dissident Hu Jia has been awarded the European Parliament's Sakharov Prize, with Washington voicing support for the decision and Beijing condemning the move on the eve of a Europe-Asia summit hosted by China.

<http://euobserver.com/9/26989/?rk=1>