



Human Rights in the European Union

**Emma Wright, Julia Kajüter
Max-Pol Léger, Naila Chong-Sit,
Daouda Toure**

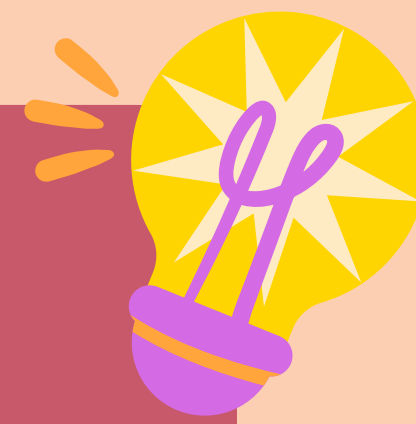
18.10.2022

Outline

- **Defining Human Rights**
- **Current Human Right Policies within the EU**
- **The Charter of Fundamental Human Rights (2012)**
- **Measures to Combat the Violation of Human Rights**
- **Possible Solutions to Reduce Violation of Human Rights**
- **References**



What are EU Human Rights? (Definition & Examples)



- 
- Are there EU Countries that Disregard a Human Right?
 - What Happens if Countries Disregard them ?

Definition

"Human rights are the notion that every human being has universal, inalienable rights, regardless of the law in the country where they live."

- The right to live.
- The right to be free.
- The right to equality.
- The right to be helped.
- The right to be educated.

The European Union is committed to supporting democracy and human rights in its external relations, in accordance with its founding principles of liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the rule of law.



Human Rights Convention



The European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms aims to guarantee individual rights and freedoms within the 46 signatory states.

It is not an offshoot of the European Union, but the Lisbon Treaty provides for the EU to accede to it.



The European Court of Human Rights is the international organisation that monitors compliance with the Convention.



Current Human Right Policies within the EU

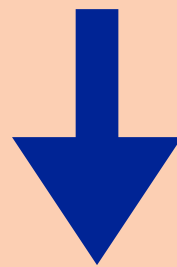


LEGAL BASIS

Treaty of the European Union (1992)



Articles 2,3,6,21
and 205



**EU values, EU Objectives,
Charter of Fundamental Rights,
principles inspiring the Union's
external action and general
provisions on the Union's
external action (TFEU)**

EU HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY

2012

- Human Rights Charter = Strategic Framework on Human Rights and Democracy + action plan (for the 10 following years)

2020

- EU action plan on democracy (2020-2024)

5 Main Areas

- 1-Protecting and empowering individuals
- 2-Building resilient, inclusive and democratic societies
- 3-Promoting a global system for human rights and democracy
- 4-New technologies: harnessing opportunities and addressing challenges
- 5-Delivering by working together



**These directives are *not* legally binding; they give
third world countries instructions about EU
Regulations during political dialogues**



Human Rights
Clauses =
essential element
in cooperation
agreement

Human Right Policies in the EU: The Charter of Fundamental Human Rights (2012)

- created on 26th October 2012
- respecting these rights required to become EU member

Aim: "The peoples of Europe, in creating an ever closer union among them, are resolved to share a peaceful future based on common values."

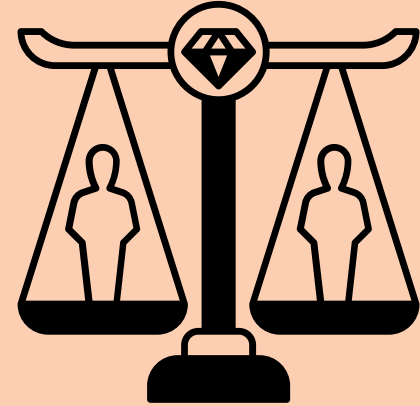
(Official Journal of the European Union, 2012)



The Charter of Fundamental Human Rights:

Overview

I. Dignity



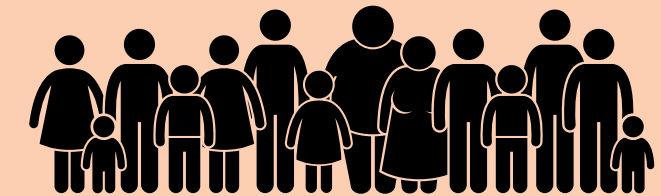
IV. Solidarity



II. Freedom



V. Citizen's Rights



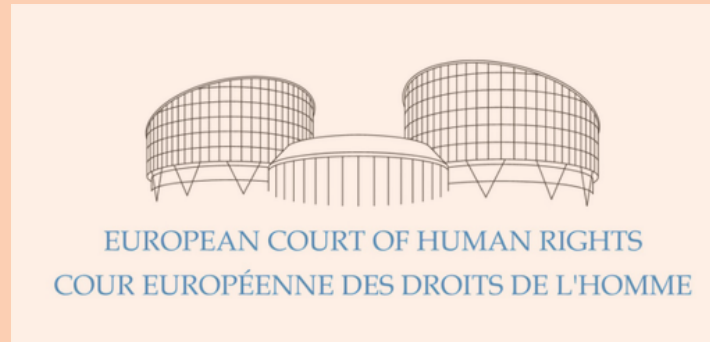
III. Equality



VI. Justice



Measures to Combat the Violation of Human Rights

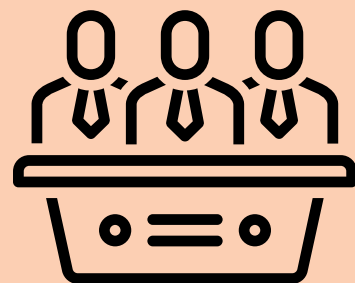


Since 1959 : European Court of Human Rights

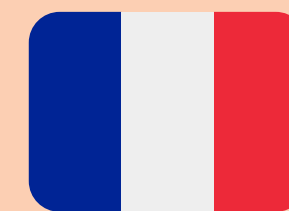


Ensuring Compliance with the Commitments undertaken by the Signatory States to the European Convention on Human Rights

Composed of the 46 Countries of the European Council



HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION EXAMPLE :

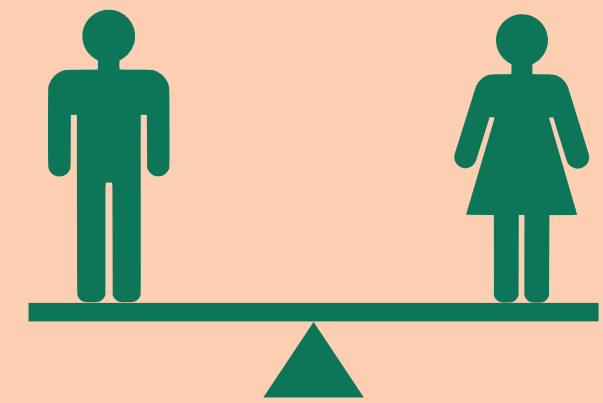


3 CONCRETE MEASURES :

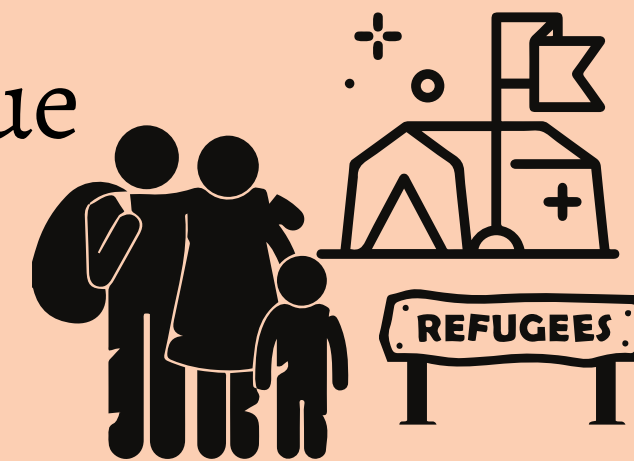
-  Creation of a coherent policy document concerning human rights guidelines that a specific country must follow within 3 years
-  EUR 1.362 billion allocated for the period 2021-2027 : thematic programme on Human Rights and Democracy
-  The December 2020 regulation establishing a global human rights sanction regime.

Examples: Why Violation of Human Rights in EU Countries is still relevant today

- *Gender Equality* → full equality still not reached; **highest** equality in **Danmark, Finnland, Sweden**; **lower** equality in **Greece, Cyprus**



- *Right to Asylum + Prohibition of Inhuman Treatment* → **Police Violence and treatment of immigrants** most condemned offences (f.ex. 2011: **European Court of Human Rights (ECHR)** announced shifting **Migrants to Greece** and their treatment as violating Human Rights due to **inhuman living conditions**)

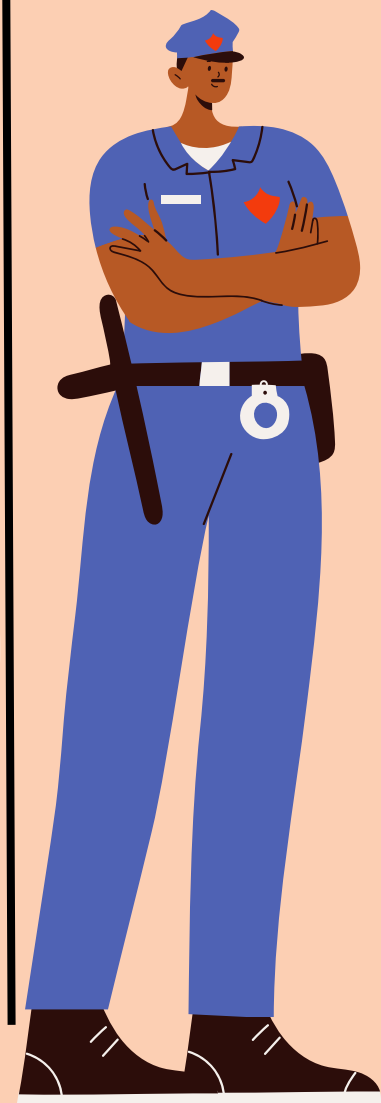
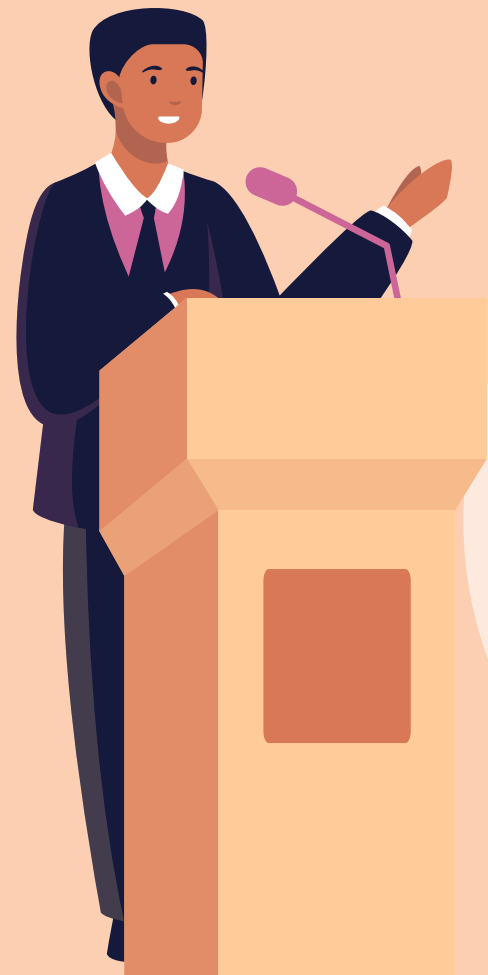




Solutions

To ensure that the Charter is upheld, the EU must:

withhold funding from countries that violate the Charter terms



implement stricter enforcement of the Charter (emphasis on article 14)



educate the people and encourage them to hold the government accountable (via articles 10-11)



SOME STRATEGIES ESTABLISHED BY ORGANIZATION AROUND THE WORLD TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHT

**Speak up for what you
care about.**



**Volunteer or donate to a
global organization.**



SOME STRATEGIES ESTABLISHED BY ORGANIZATIONS AROUND THE WORLD TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHT

Choose fair trade & ethically made gifts.



Listen to others' stories.



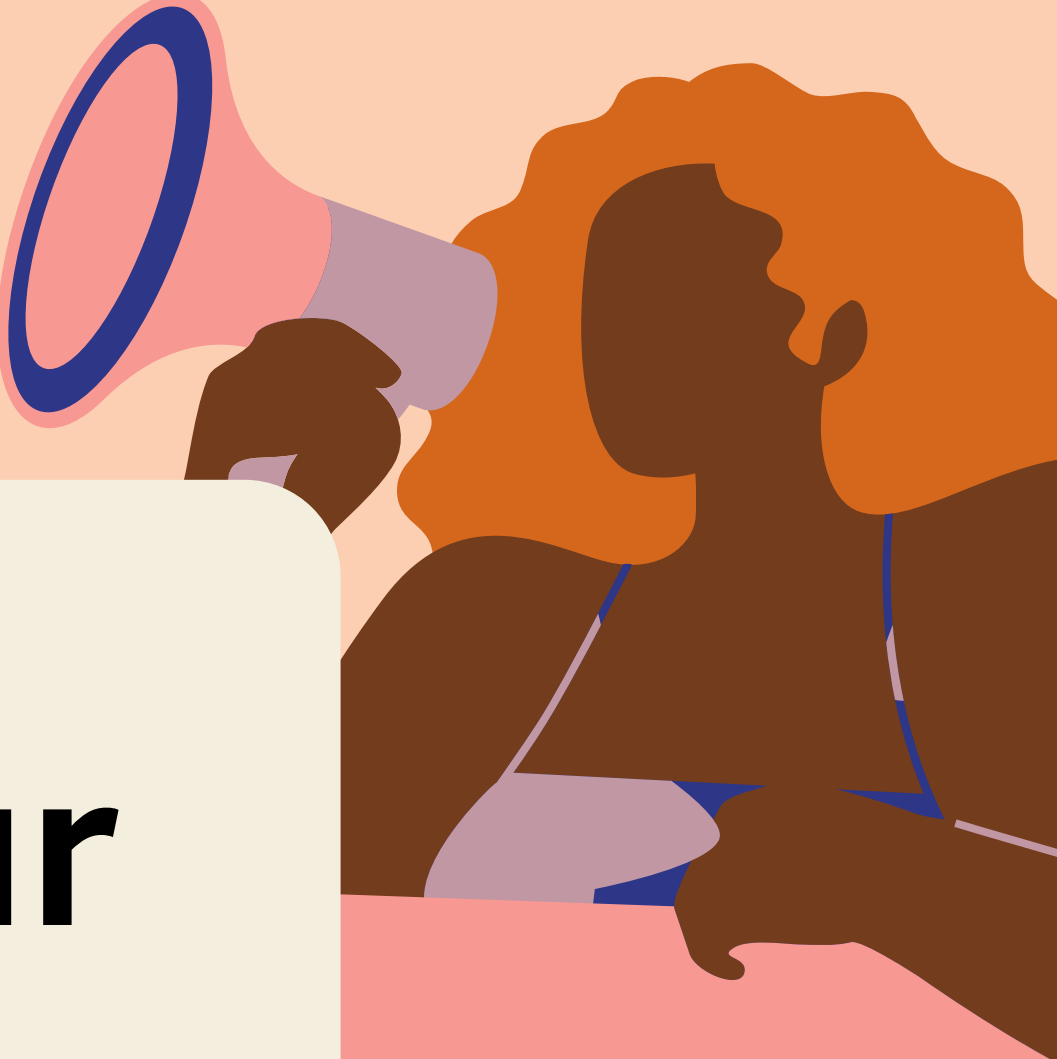
SOME STRATEGIES ESTABLISHED BY ORGANIZATIONS AROUND THE WORLD TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHT

**Stay connected with
social movements.**



**Stand up against
discrimination.**



An illustration of a woman with voluminous orange hair, wearing a dark top and a blue necklace, holding a pink and blue megaphone. The background is a light orange gradient.

**Thank you for your
Attention!
Questions?**



References

- <https://eur-lex-europa-eu.ezproxy2.utwente.nl/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:12012P/TXT&from=EN>
- <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/about-parliament/en/democracy-and-human-rights/fundamental-rights-in-the-eu>
- Human rights | Fact Sheets on the European Union | European Parliament (europa.eu)
- Human Rights | United Nations
- Cour européenne des droits de l'homme – Wikipédia (wikipedia.org)
- Plantenga, J., Remery, C., Figueiredo, H., & Smith, M. (2009). Towards a European Union Gender Equality Index. *Journal of European Social Policy*, 19(1), 19–33. <https://doi-org.ezproxy2.utwente.nl/10.1177/0958928708098521>
- EU: Menschenrechtsverletzungen in Mitgliedstaaten ignoriert | Human Rights Watch (hrw.org)
- <https://www.google.com/search?q=how+to+protect+human+rights>.