



# Equal rights worldwide

**THE EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT  
FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS  
2007-2010**



**Equal in rights worldwide**  
EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS





**Andris Piebalgs**  
European Commissioner  
for Development

# Foreword

Promoting human rights and democracy across the globe lies at the heart of European Union development policy. We believe that respect for human decency and democratic choice are drivers in the worldwide fight to reduce poverty, remove inequalities, attract investments and achieve the Millennium Development Goals. The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) is the direct expression of EU commitments.

This is the first EIDHR activity report since it was recast in its present form in 2007. The extent and variety of the activities presented in these pages bear witness to the aspirations of people in many parts of the world to the basic freedoms and rights to which we are all entitled. The activities of the EIDHR find an eloquent echo in the recent yearnings voiced by people in autocratic Arab countries for freedom of speech and association, for basic human dignity and the right to work.

Such movements will add to pressure on the EIDHR's resources. Applications for funding from the EIDHR already outpace its budget by a large margin.

This report covers 2007-2010, the first half of the EIDHR's current period of activity which runs until 2013. It offers stakeholders and the general public information and insights into what the EIDHR does around the world, how it works, whom it benefits and how the European taxpayer's money is used. It reveals a facet of EU activity away from the formal structures of its diplomatic, trade or political relations. The EIDHR's partners are human rights groups, civil society organisations, and other, sometimes informal bodies or even individuals, seeking real solutions to real problems. Many are in countries where fundamental freedoms are under threat.

This is the context of the EIDHR. The report sets out its themes and activities in the regions and countries in which it operates. Besides the facts and figures, the report contains numerous case studies of successful projects. Small sums can sometimes go a long way. But it is clear from the report that many present challenges will continue and new ones will arise. The EIDHR will face many calls on its resources for some time to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andris Piebalgs', written in a cursive style.



# A unique tool

**Respect for human rights, democracy and the rule of law are values which underpin the European Union. It seeks to reinforce these values at home and supports efforts to spread them worldwide. It does so principally through its normal trade and diplomatic relations with other countries and via its programmes of external development assistance. But it also acts directly using the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights.**

The EIDHR provides funding for projects across the globe to help people – groups and individuals – deprived of their basic rights and of their human dignity. Throughout the world, people are increasingly aware of their rights, and of their ability to bring change. This adds to the pent-up demand for help. As it is, the EIDHR budget cannot handle all funding applications from human rights groups, NGOs and civil society bodies.

Since 2007, the EIDHR has committed about €580 million to support democratic processes and defend the human rights of people, with a focus on countries where they are most at risk. These include women and children threatened by violence and exploitation, the use of children in armed conflict, racism and all forms of discrimination against minorities, including sexual minorities, migrants and people with disabilities.

The EIDHR also funds projects to prevent torture and rehabilitate its victims, to end impunity from prosecution for the perpetrators of torture and violence and to defend the defenders of human rights themselves. It advocates the abolition of the death penalty by countries where it still applies.

The EIDHR works to strengthen democratic structures and electoral processes, principally by sending observation missions during national elections.

The EIDHR operates in the EU's neighbours in the Balkans, Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean, as well as in the Middle East, Asia, Latin America and the African-Caribbean-Pacific (ACP) group of countries. At international level, it supports the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Council of Europe and the International Criminal Court. The EIDHR believes that local projects targeting specific issues in one country or a small region are an essential and growing part of its activity.

## Money well spent?

Funding for social and economic development in far-off lands gets hard to justify at times of austerity at home. Is the EU taxpayer's money well spent by the EIDHR? It depends on what monetary value you put on human rights.

For €100 you can have a lawyer register a dissident being taken into custody, thereby reducing the risk that he or she will 'disappear' or become the object of excessive punishment. For €90 000, the EIDHR has trained several hundred women judges in Egypt.

When you buy a €100 pair of sports shoes produced in an Asian sweatshop, only €0.50 goes on workers' wages and nothing to improve working conditions. An EIDHR-funded project is pressing to change this.

The EIDHR, successor to the earlier and more limited European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights, has an overall budget for 2007-2013 of €1.104 billion. This is a drop in the bucket when compared with the €862 billion overall EU budget framework for this period.

The EIDHR operates directly with grass-roots organisations, NGO's, advocacy groups, trade unions and the media to promote pluralism, transparency and accountability in political life, to empower those with no political representation, and promote the freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief.

## No double standards on the death penalty

Because all its member states have abolished the death penalty as cruel, inhuman and ineffective as a crime deterrent, the EU advocates its abolition around the world. It backs abolitionist groups in all countries which still apply it, including close partners like the United States and Japan. Projects funded by EIDHR, which totaled €6.5 million in 2009, take several approaches toward the eventual abolition of the death penalty.

They may support ways of modifying existing legislation by narrowing the list of crimes punishable by death, or by excluding the mentally ill and the under-age from capital punishment, or by introducing a moratorium for a test period. They also fund groups aiming to improve criminal procedures and trial practices which enhance the right to a fair trial for those accused of capital offences. The EIDHR finances public information and public awareness activities.

## Human rights defenders

Human rights defenders may be campaigners, lawyers, journalists. They may come from other walks of life. They are often at risk. The best-known can be protected by their notoriety. Others need our help. Their immediate families may be threatened too. This is why the EIDHR funds activities to provide protection.

The EU can provide legal aid, medical and financial assistance, and if necessary relocation to another country. The EIDHR has set up a hotline and a network of 11 help desks to deliver emergency assistance to human rights defenders around the world. It has sent guidelines to its delegations and diplomatic missions for assisting human rights defenders, particularly women. Human rights activists who are women face a double risk – because of who they are as well as for what they do.

From 2007 to 2010, the EIDHR funded 22 projects to defend human rights defenders in different countries and regions at a cost of €14.3 million. The projects range in value from €10 000 to help individuals in urgent need to contributions of more than €1.5 million towards strengthening international protection structures.

[http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/human-rights/human-rights-defenders\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/human-rights/human-rights-defenders_en.htm)



# Part of a bigger system

**The EIDHR embodies the EU's commitment to promote human rights in countries across the globe and to defend groups and individuals whose rights are most at risk. But the EIDHR does not act in isolation. It complements activities to support and defend human rights undertaken as part of the EU's routine relations with its partners around the world.**

Not bound by the terms of any international or bilateral agreements, the EIDHR can act quickly and flexibly where the constraints of more conventional procedures would slow down EU action. As a stand-alone EU instrument, it needs no authorisation from local governments to intervene. The EIDHR can act 'under the radar' to support partners and sometimes even individuals in sensitive situations.

Human rights are part and parcel of the EU's external relations. They feature in all relevant EU policies. Respect for human rights is written into formal agreements between the EU and more than 120 partner countries. The EU has set up bilateral human rights dialogues at government or local level with more than 30 countries around the world. Under its Cotonou agreement, the EU can cut or freeze aid to ACP countries which breach the human rights of their citizens.

## Helping locals take responsibility in Haiti

In 2010, the EIDHR funded a major programme in Haiti to train local election supervisors and observers in preparation for presidential and parliamentary elections, postponed because of the massive earthquake which hit the country in January. The first round of voting took place on 28 November. Elections in Haiti in the past have been marred by violence, manipulation and intimidation.

The project began with the training of 130 senior electoral supervisors to take charge at departmental and communal level. A further 3 000 young people from civil society organisations were trained in readiness to observe the voting on election day across the country. The EU believes that political stability and the transition to democracy are prerequisites for Haiti's reconstruction and economic recovery.

As part of its established aid programmes with individual partners, the EU routinely funds projects to build or reinforce democratic institutions, upgrade the administration of justice, promote the role of women in society and defend the rights of minorities. In its trade relations, the EU is committed to supporting 'fair trade' products. These are products which involve no child or slave labour, and where workers' rights to decent conditions and to trade union membership are respected. Human rights, especially gender issues and the protection of children, are being built into the EU's common security and defence policy as part of its post-conflict and peace-building missions.

The EIDHR is an essential adjunct to these activities. But it cannot replace them. The EIDHR remains an instrument of relatively modest size, working in a selective and strategic fashion. As such it acts as a catalyst for more sustained operations and results by other actors and other policies. Part of its function is to make sure that human rights and fundamental freedoms are integrated into all EU external policies. By creating and exploiting synergies with these policies, the EIDHR brings extra added-value to its initiatives. The number of EIDHR projects and the value of grants have risen consistently since it was set up.

### EIDHR grants (2007-2010)\*

Year	N° of grants	Value of grants (€)
2007/2008	366	112 601 457
2009	408	97 073 082
2010	465	122 583 196
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1 239</b>	<b>331 046 843</b>

\* These figures are the contracted amounts; they exclude election observation missions organised by the EIDHR and sensitive projects.

## Children at risk all over

Children's rights and the post-conflict rehabilitation of child soldiers are the object of many EIDHR projects in all regions.

Pará state has one of the highest rates of violation of children's rights in **Brazil's** Amazon region. Children who end up in care or in state institutions are often abused. Torture and other forms of violence and deprivation are commonplace. The EIDHR is funding a three-year project to train 800 children and 600 families to defend their rights and denounce violations.

The project also targets 1 200 professionals whose job it is to protect the rights of children in care and in justice institutions.

In the mid-western region of **Nepal**, an EIDHR project is helping to reintegrate 4 000 former child soldiers and other youngsters – boys and girls – affected by the country's 10-year war. They are taught to read and write and learn other life skills. They also receive psychosocial counseling aimed at reducing crime, drug abuse, depression and suicide.

Twin sisters Naomi and Fuhara from the east of the **Democratic Republic of Congo** were kidnapped aged 15 and spent three years as child soldiers. Afterwards, they were able to join 800 girls and young women as part of an EIDHR project to help the recovery and rehabilitation of girls affected by armed conflict in the DRC. For many of them, the alternative to the project was living rough or being forced into prostitution to support themselves. Besides reading and writing, the project gave them job training as dressmakers, cooks or hairdressers.



# Activities by theme

**From the time it started operating, in 2007, until the end of 2010, the EIDHR funded 1 239 projects to promote and protect human rights in all regions of the world for a total budget of €331 million.**

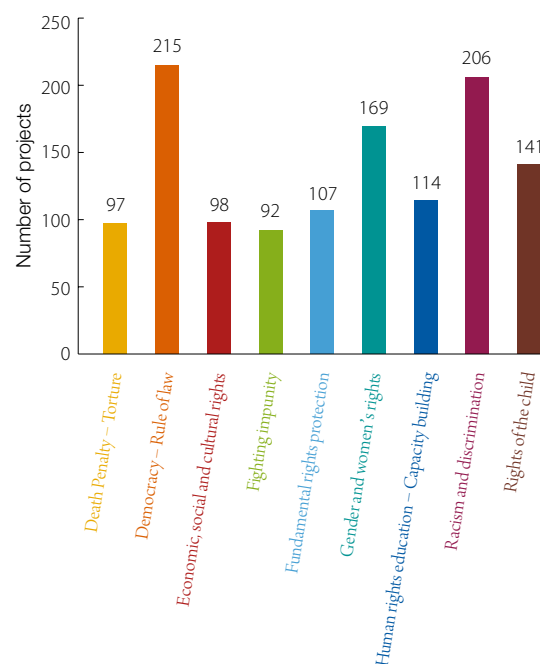
The money was distributed fairly evenly across the main areas of activities as seen in the summary table. The largest amounts went to the prevention of torture and the rehabilitation of victims and the abolition of the death penalty, followed by the protection of human rights defenders and fighting impunity from prosecution for human rights violators.

But behind the numbers are people – millions of men, women and children often in desperate circumstances – which the EU has helped or tried to help.

Not included in the figures are election observation missions. In addition, the EU funded and organised 35 election observer missions plus assessment and training missions for local election officials and observers in 27 countries in Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America between 2007 and 2010. The total cost was €131 million.

Besides its scheduled projects, the EIDHR carries out sensitive activities to support human rights defenders and activists in countries where these rights are most at risk. More than 10% of the EIDHR budget is spent on these operations which are kept confidential to protect those involved.

**EIDHR projects by theme (2007-2010)**





## Women's rights

Millions of women and girls around the world are discriminated against because of their gender. They have little or no access to basic human rights. Often marginalised and humiliated, they are regularly the victims of violence (often sexual) and of human trafficking. The cultural tradition of female genital mutilation is a long-standing problem in a number of developing countries.

The EU has made the empowerment and protection of women a human rights priority. Projects funded by the EIDHR help them attain their basic rights and move towards gender equality in all areas of social, economic and political life.

The obstacles in terms of current attitudes and practice as well as history, custom and tradition are huge in some societies. Education, training and information are essential for them to voice their rights, participate in decision-taking, and reach basic levels of fulfillment. Advocacy and support networks require outside assistance. Between 2007 and 2010, the EIDHR funded a total of 169 projects on gender and women's rights for a total budget of €28.4 million.

## Torture prevention and assistance to victims

Torture is against every principle of human decency and dignity. Yet it is widely practiced. Every year, an estimated 100 000 survivors of torture and their families around the world require assistance. The EIDHR supports rehabilitation treatment for the victims of physical torture. It also helps provide therapy and counseling for victims of psychological torture. One case in Africa involved people forced to watch the murder of family members or the rape of their own children. The EIDHR also supports efforts to end the impunity of torturers and to bring them to justice.

It has funded one international project in ten countries where doctors and lawyers are trained to establish and use medical evidence of torture. Another EIDHR-backed project provides clinical training and administrative support to torture treatment centres in east and central Africa.

The EIDHR tackles torture prevention by promoting the application of international law and by training policemen, soldiers, judges, lawyers and doctors on the need to apply safeguards against torture in their national justice systems.

## Democratic elections

A citizen's vote is the ultimate expression of democracy. But the process has been debased by sham elections in one-party states and rigged votes in countries where leaders refuse to give up power.

The EU is restoring confidence in the electoral process in countries across the globe. It organises and funds election observation missions to see whether voters can freely choose among candidates and that all those eligible to vote can do so. They also look out for fraud or voter intimidation.

But the EU is often busy well before the vote takes place. It sends in experts to train electoral officials and monitors, to facilitate voter registration, to prepare polling stations and check counting procedures. They also run programmes and events to promote voter participation, particularly by women.

The experts help ensure that all candidates are free to campaign and have access to the media. They also monitor media coverage.



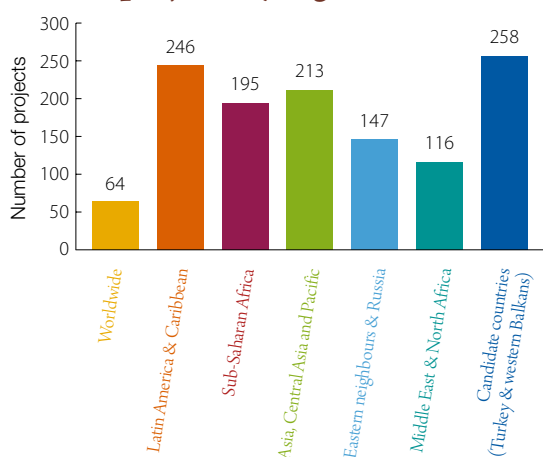
# Activities by region

**Global activities in favour of human rights account for the biggest slice of the EIDHR budget. These include efforts to gain acceptance for universal principles of international law by countries across the globe with little tradition of freedom, democracy or respect for human rights.**

The EIDHR also supports the activities of the UN and its High Commissioner for Human Rights. It seeks to strengthen the functioning of the International Criminal Court as the effective tool for bringing human rights violators to justice.

The EIDHR divides its geographic operations into six regions. In terms of resources, the three where it is most active are Latin America, Africa and Asia.

**EIDHR projects by region (2007-2010)**



## Land rights for indigenous communities

The rights of indigenous peoples are an EIDHR priority. According to the UN, there are around 300 million people, defining themselves as indigenous living in more than 70 countries. Often they are unable to assert their rights, suffering exclusion or discrimination. An EIDHR project in Cambodia with a local partner has been helping indigenous communities secure their land rights. It has facilitated their involvement in mapping state land and defining the ownership of communal land.

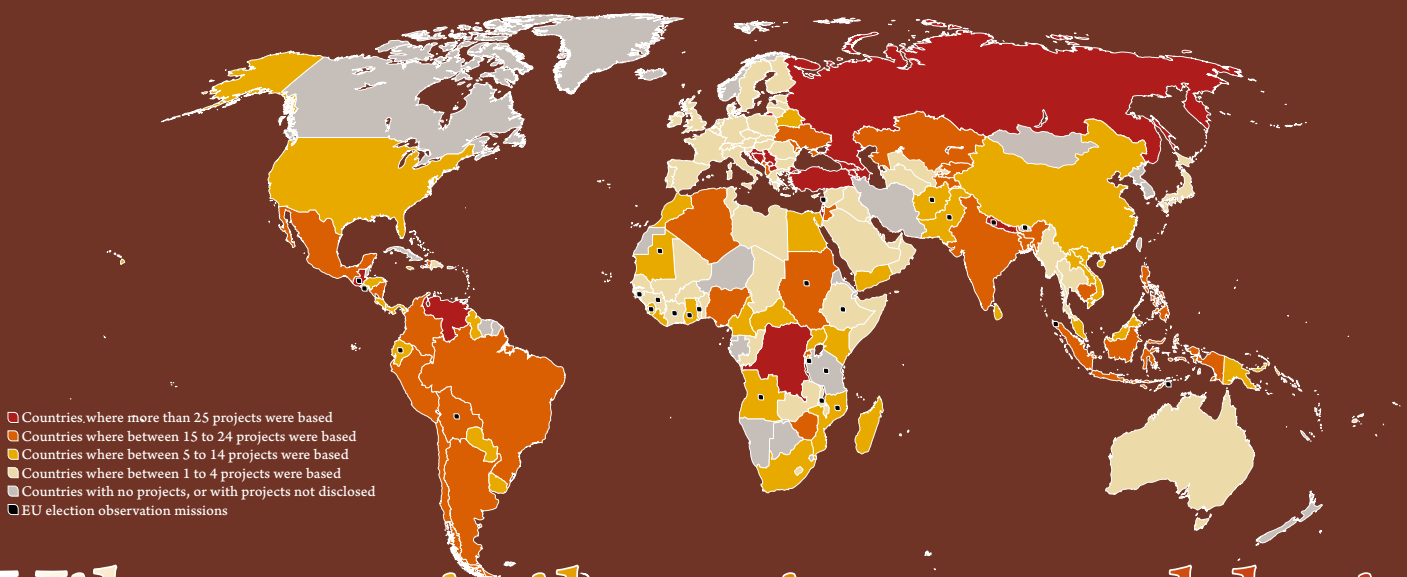
## Supporting gay rights in Bolivia

Although the Bolivian constitution provides for punishment of any type of discrimination against lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgenders (LGBT), they suffer harassment and violence in the workplace on a daily basis. The EIDHR supports a project along with a local advocacy group in the capital, La Paz, to raise awareness of sexual and gender diversity via workshops and public events. The project, which involved La Paz city officials, has led to greater openness, giving LGBT people more public visibility, and reducing discrimination and stigmatisation.

## The media and the message in Georgia

Information and communication are essential tools for the promotion and defence of human rights. In November 2009, the European Commission hosted an EIDHR-funded seminar on media freedom in Tbilisi for Georgian and European journalists, human rights activists, NGOs and civil society bodies. It focused on the electronic media and themes like media ownership, access to information, professional standards of journalism and the media as business.

Participants adopted a series of recommendations which were submitted to the EU-Georgia human rights dialogue calling for more transparency of media ownership, safeguards for the independence of the media regulator, adequate funding for the Georgian public broadcaster, and better training and more independence for journalists.



# Vibrant civil society worldwide



# So far so good: an evaluation

**In its present form, the EIDHR is still in its infancy. Full operations only began in 2008. Many projects begun two or three years ago are still under way. It is therefore too early to draw definitive conclusions. But the EIDHR has performed sufficiently well during 2007-2010 to continue to build on the same overall objectives for the coming period (2011-2013).**

The worldwide financial and economic crisis seems to have had little direct effect on implementing EIDHR projects. But worsening living conditions, with pressure on some democratic rights and freedoms as political elites fail to respond to citizens' expectations, have reinforced the need to protect and promote economic, social and cultural rights in particular.

## Capacity building at the ICC

The EIDHR has supported the International Criminal Court from its creation. Since 2009, it has supported annual training programmes for all lawyers on the ICC list of counsel.

It also funds exchanges between the ICC and national judicial systems. Access to high-quality legal defence is essential to the proper functioning of the ICC. It needs therefore to be able to call on a pool of well-trained legal professionals from different countries, able to work at international level. The programmes are open to lawyers from any country, whether it has ratified the Rome Statute on which the court is based or not.

After the programmes, participants are expected to share their new expertise when they return to their workplace, whether this is in government, with a local authority or a civil society organisation.



The EIDHR has also learnt other lessons. A number of individual thematic evaluations highlight the importance of several issues:

- The importance of dialogue with implementing partners
- The need for closer internal and external monitoring of projects, and better project cycle management
- The greater degree of success of small one-country projects compared with global ones
- Impacts are improved when working methods and strategies are combined
- A need to simplify application procedures so that small human rights organisations in developing countries have access to EIDHR funds.

The independence of the EIDHR has been a critical feature, allowing direct contact with local civil society groups, especially on issues of democracy and human rights defenders. Its flexibility has enabled it to respond rapidly and adapt to changing circumstances. One change has been to allow recipients of EIDHR funding to award small grants to other local entities or to individual human rights defenders in urgent need of protection.

The success of the so-called country-based support schemes (CBSS), where projects are organised and managed by local EU delegations, has led to their expansion. While resources for CBSS are being increased to meet increased demand, competition for funds will be keen.

The activity to organise and manage election observation missions has helped build confidence and enhance the reliability and transparency of democratic electoral processes.

One overall result to which the EIDHR has contributed is a trend in the international donor community to integrate human rights and democratic principles as core values into all areas of development cooperation and crisis management. This in turn has led to a greater focus on the root causes of insecurity and conflict.

## Workers' rights link in with others

Human rights are interlinked. If people go to bed hungry each night, have no access to drinking water or healthcare, it is often because they have no job or are being exploited by their employer. This is one reason why the EIDHR focuses on labour and trade union rights as well as the right to food, health and water. It has funded a project for trade union rights and decent conditions for garment workers in several Asian countries. It has done the same thing recently for agricultural and manufacturing workers and those employed by SMEs in countries like Armenia, Kazakhstan, Fiji, Vietnam and Rwanda.

## Integration for Roma in Ukraine and Moldova

The EIDHR is supporting a Council of Europe project to help the governments of Ukraine and Moldova to integrate Roma minorities and raise the level of inter-cultural and inter-ethnic understanding. There are anything between 270 000 and 650 000 Roma in both countries, although official figures are lower.

In Ukraine, the 15-month project created a pool of Roma health mediators. Twenty Roma women from different regions of Ukraine were trained by experienced Roma health mediators from Romania. In Moldova, the project built up the concept of Roma school assistants, with programmes attended by Moldovan teachers, academics and government representatives.

# The EIDHR tool-box

The EIDHR makes funds available for a wide range of beneficiaries in all parts of the world. Depending on the specific aim of each action, eligible entities can include:

- Civil society organisations and NGOs
- International and regional intergovernmental organisations
- Independent political foundations
- Public and private sector non-profit groups
- Parliamentary bodies where support cannot be provided through other EU instruments
- Individuals in special circumstances.

Funding for individual political parties is excluded. About 90% of EIDHR funding goes to civil society organisations and non-profit groups and 10% to international organisations.

Applicants submit proposals for projects in response to calls for proposals from the European Commission. Global calls are handled centrally by the Commission and generally implemented under the responsibility of EU delegations in the field. Country-specific calls are issued and projects selected and managed by individual EU delegations.

Country-based support schemes, managed by local EU delegations, recognise that local ownership adds force to actions to protect democracy and human rights. They respond to initiatives from local civil society organisations for reform, dialogue and political participation. Individual grants may range from €10 000 to €300 000.

In addition to its support for international programmes and campaigns to promote and defend human rights, the EIDHR assists academic networks for training international human rights specialists. The first of these was the Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation based in Venice, where the EIDHR funds a European Master's degree in human rights.

The Venice centre has inspired the creation of inter-university networks across the globe. The EIDHR now supports masters in human rights and democratisation involving inter-university networks in four different regions:

- Africa - University of Pretoria (South Africa)
- Southeast Europe - Sarajevo University (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Asia/Pacific - University of Sydney (Australia)
- Latin America/Caribbean - Universidad Nacional de General San Martín (Argentina).

## From leadership school to municipal council

You do not have to attend a university to get a solid grounding in human rights and democracy. A group of 125 young women from different backgrounds – youth groups, human rights organisations, state employees, journalists, teachers and trade unionists – attended the EIDHR-funded leadership school for young women in Azerbaijan. The aim was to train them in the theory and practice of leadership. Twelve of the young women who took part in the 18-month project stood as candidates and were elected in the Azerbaijan 2010 municipal elections.

The leadership school is expected to develop into a permanent autonomous educational institution with branches in different parts of the country.

A network of emergency helpdesks for human rights defenders around the world is available at: [http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/human-rights/human-rights-defenders\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/human-rights/human-rights-defenders_en.htm)

More on EIDHR and EU policy on human rights and democracy at:

European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights: [www.eidhr.eu](http://www.eidhr.eu)

EuropeAid web site: [http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/index_en.htm)

EuropeAid web pages on democracy and human rights: [http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/human-rights/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/human-rights/index_en.htm)

EU election observation missions: <http://eueom.eu/>

European External Action Service: <http://www.eeas.europa.eu>

# Applying the lessons

The EIDHR strategy paper for 2011-2013 says that while maintaining continuity with previous years it will put more emphasis on two areas. One priority is for countries where there is a serious lack of respect for human rights and where human rights defenders face grave violations to their rights and threats against them or their families. The second priority is to provide more money for country-based support schemes given their good performance to date.

The EIDHR will use its independence of action to focus on sensitive political issues, using innovative approaches and extend cooperation with local civil society organisations which need to keep their distance from public authorities, particularly in “difficult” countries.

The response strategy of the EIDHR and its commitments to meet all its objectives will help ensure the mainstreaming into all EU policies of gender equality, non-discrimination, the rights of children, minorities, migrants, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples.

The calls for proposals will be made more predictable and fast-track handling especially for emergency human rights situations will be provided. EU delegations will provide more assistance to train local organisations on EIDHR application procedures and project management.

In the coming period, the EIDHR will continue to support the International Criminal Court, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Council of Europe and the European Inter-University Centre for human rights.

Although the current EIDHR budget runs until the end of 2013, the European Union is already preparing proposals for the allocation of the overall EU budget funding for the next financial cycle which runs from 2014 to 2020. There has been little progress around the world on human rights and fundamental freedoms. Many areas of darkness remain. The situation will improve in some countries and get worse in others. Either way, the need for a tool as independent and as flexible as the EIDHR will continue into the foreseeable future.

## EIDHR financial allocations (2011-2013)

Activities	Total (€ million)	Percentage of total	Indicative implementation schedule
Countries where human rights are most at risk	47.2	10	Annual call for proposals
Country-based support schemes	165.4	35	Annual calls for proposals by 80 to 90 EU delegations
Transnational and regional projects; conflict prevention; democracy	18.9	4	Call for proposals in 2011
Human rights dialogues	2.3	0.5	<i>Ad hoc</i> operations
Human rights defenders	22.1	4.7	Annual call for proposals
Death penalty	7.0	1.5	Call for proposals in 2011
Torture	37.9	8	Call for proposals in 2012
Children & armed conflict/ rights of the child, violence & discrimination against women and girls	18.7	4	Call for proposals in 2013
Support for the international framework	47.2	10	Call for proposals in 2012 (HR Masters) and 2013 (Support to International Criminal Court) + <i>Ad hoc</i> projects
Election observation missions	105.6	22.3	<i>Ad hoc</i> operations
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>472.4</b>	<b>100</b>	

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Human rights are for everybody. Yet they are under threat in many parts of the world. The European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) is the EU's tool for direct action to support basic rights and democratic choice and those fighting to defend them.

The EIDHR funds projects across the globe. Its partners are local human rights groups, civil society organisations, NGOs and even individual human rights activists. Internationally, it supports bodies like the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the International Criminal Court.

This activity report covers the period 2007-2010. It shows how the EIDHR intervenes to fight racism and discrimination in all its forms so as to protect the rights of women and children, minorities, migrants, or persons with handicaps. It also explains EIDHR actions to prevent torture and to bring perpetrators to justice, and its support for moves to abolish the death penalty in countries where it is still practiced.

[www.eidhr.eu](http://www.eidhr.eu)

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