



2015 European Year for Development

our world
our dignity
our future

EYD2015

HUMAN RIGHTS & GOVERNANCE

2015 is a landmark year for international aid and development cooperation as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) come to their conclusion. Based on these, the world has come together to agree new global commitments to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice and combat climate change.

Each month, the EYD2015 is focusing on a different development theme, to raise awareness of the benefits of the EU's development cooperation in that area and encourage direct involvement, critical thinking and active interest of EU citizens. December is the month of 'Human Rights and Governance'.

Human rights and development are inextricably linked. They have the same ultimate objective to improve human well-being, based on the inherent dignity and equality of all people. Overcoming the obstacles that perpetuate human rights violations by combatting discrimination, ensuring the rule of law and building fair and inclusive institutions, is crucial if we are to achieve sustainable peace, development and prosperity.

Governance concerns the state's ability to serve its citizens. It refers to the rules, processes and behaviour by which interests are articulated, resources are managed, and power is exercised in society. Good governance follows universal principles: a participative, inclusive, transparent and accountable democracy; respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; and the rule of law and ensuring equal access to basic social services.

When governance fails and human rights are violated, it's the poorest and most vulnerable who suffer most.



The EU is supporting the functioning of over 350 village Courts in Bangladesh. These courts are allowing people, like Abdullah and his cousin, to get a fair hearing, which is also less expensive and much quicker than the formal courts. [Read the story on europa.eu/eyd2015](http://europa.eu/eyd2015)

THE EU'S COOPERATION IN ACTION

- The EU conducts dedicated human rights dialogues with **over 40 countries** around the globe with the aim of improving cooperation on human rights.
- The EU is supporting rule of law, security and justice capacity building programmes in more than **50 countries** worldwide.
- **110 Electoral Observation Missions** have been deployed since 1993. These missions promote democracy and human rights, strengthen democratic institutions, build public confidence in electoral processes and help to deter fraud, intimidation and violence.
- Nearly **3,000 civil society initiatives** have been supported since 2007 across the globe through the *European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR)*, to reinforce the role of grassroots civil society in promoting human rights and democratic reforms.
- **400 human rights defenders** at risk have been supported through the *EIDHR* Emergency Fund since 2010. In most cases, such EU support has helped save their life.

EYD2015 AND HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOVERNANCE

Visit the official EYD2015 website and find stories, infographics and other information on 'Human Rights and Governance'. Also find out more about events, initiatives and activities organised by EYD partners!



The psychologist Zarrina Alimshoeva supports the reintegration of ex-prisoners at the Bureau on Human Rights and Rule of Law in Tajikistan. Read the story on europa.eu/eyd2015

EU and Human Rights and Governance

The treaties of the European Union establish democracy, the rule of law, and respect for human rights as fundamental values upon which the European Union is based. Democracy and human rights are universal values and a commitment to these fundamental values is essential for the establishment of any partnership and cooperation with a country.

Good governance, in its political, economic, social and environmental terms, is at the heart of European development policy and is vital for sustainable development. There can be no development without good governance. Without a government and institutions with the capacity to serve the public interest, human rights cannot be upheld and poverty and inequality will persist. The EU sees good governance as not only a crucial enabler for inclusive and sustainable development, but also as an objective in its own right.

The EU believes that defending and promoting human rights and good governance is the only way to guarantee security, stability and sustainable development throughout the world.

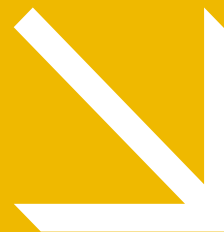
THE EU'S COOPERATION - IN COUNTRY FOCUS

- The EU is supporting the inclusion of gender experts in mediation. In **Guatemala** for instance, **386 indigenous women** were trained in mediation and negotiation skills, resulting in the resolution of 100 land tenure conflicts.
- In **Bangladesh** the first ever computerised photo voter list of **81 million voters** was compiled in less than a year. Many female registration officers were recruited to especially encourage female voters to register.
- To help torture-survivors in **Central and Eastern Africa**, **350 doctors and lawyers** have been trained in **10 countries**, to carry out better forensic examinations. This is crucial to establishing valid evidence for use in court cases involving torture.

THEMATIC MONTHS

Each month during the campaign will focus on a different theme involved in development around the world:

- January:* **EUROPE IN THE WORLD**
- February:* **EDUCATION**
- March:* **WOMEN AND GIRLS**
- April:* **HEALTH**
- May:* **PEACE AND SECURITY**
- June:* **SUSTAINABLE GREEN GROWTH, DECENT JOBS, BUSINESSES**
- July:* **CHILDREN AND YOUTH**
- August:* **HUMANITARIAN AID**
- September:* **DEMOGRAPHY AND MIGRATION**
- October:* **FOOD SECURITY**
- November:* **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION**
- December:* **HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOVERNANCE**



SPREAD THE WORD!

Join the EYD2015 campaign online!

Join the EYD2015 campaign online! Stay up to date with information and news on the official campaign website, join the conversation on Twitter ([#EYD2015](https://twitter.com/EYD2015)) and have your say on Facebook.

Infographics, online banners, campaign trailers and more materials can be downloaded from the EYD2015 website. You can also join the group "European Year for Development 2015" on capacity4dev.eu to join the debate and get the latest news.

To get more involved, you can join us at events across the EU, and spread the impact of the campaign by co-branding with the EYD2015.

europa.eu/eyd2015

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