



Newsletter



Human rights at the crossroads: balancing security, sovereignty, and human dignity

In these tumultuous times, my focus is twofold. From Brussels to Geneva, I am strengthening ties with international partners and institutions to ensure a unified response to the human rights challenges facing our continent. I am also seeking a renewed commitment from our member states to ensure that human rights serve as the bedrock of the emerging global order, while safeguarding every pillar of a vibrant, democratic society.

Security through the lens of human rights

At the **Munich Security Conference 2026**, I emphasised throughout my encounters that national security is not a separate interest—it is best achieved with respect of the rule of law. Long-term stability requires a human rights roadmap; they are not competing interests, but two sides of the same coin.

Ukraine four years on

As February 24 marked four years since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, I reiterated that peace talks must prioritise immediate relief and protection for Ukrainian civilians. It is essential that human rights remain central to peace and recovery efforts.

Read my [statement](#)
Explore: [Memorandum on human rights elements for peace](#)

Safeguarding the ECHR and migration standards

I called for a "legal, factual, firm, and transparent" approach to uphold the universality of rights and the independence of the European Court of Human Rights. We must move beyond political considerations and confusion and return to principled legal analysis.

Watch my [video address to the Steering Committee for Human Rights \(CDDH\)](#)

Protecting children

Digital governance: I am urging states to regulate platforms, not children. Rather than implementing broad bans that could infringe on children's rights to information and participation we must hold social media companies accountable for digital safety.

Read my Shout Out [Regulate platforms, not children](#)

Child poverty: In a memorandum on the **United Kingdom**, I welcomed new policies to address child poverty and urged full implementation, outlining the steps still needed to ensure no child is left behind.

Read [my memorandum](#)

Civil society under pressure

At the International Conference "Shaping democratic renewal", I called on states to reverse the erosion of civic space. In Brussels, in Geneva and in my country work, I see the essential role of civil society just about everywhere.

Read my [speech](#)

Honouring Roma and Travellers

In Geneva, marking the 25th anniversary of the Durban Declaration, I joined UN leaders, experts and Roma and Traveller defenders to confront the persistent scourge of antigypsyism. Through the presentation of my book and exhibition, *The Unheard 12 Million*, I call for joint action against systemic marginalisation, antigypsyism and segregation. Our collective goal remains clear: a world where the diverse heritage of Roma and Traveller communities is celebrated and everyone is free and equal in dignity and in rights.

Read my [speech](#)

Read *The Unheard 12 Million* [English](#) | [Français](#)

Externalisation

I highlighted that externalised migration policies are neither innovative nor smart and that they carry the risk of human rights violations. From asylum procedures to return hubs and border management, we need a precautionary approach that puts human dignity first.

Read my speech [at the European Parliament Subcommittee on human rights \(DROI\)](#)

Country focus

Armenia: My 3-day visit focused on building on human rights progress in non-discrimination, the integration of Karabakh Armenians and combating violence against women.

Read [my end-of-visit statement](#)

Georgia and Hungary: I called on the Georgian Parliament to reject amendments that would stifle civil society. I called on Hungarian authorities to reverse the crackdowns on peaceful assembly.

Read [Georgia Statement](#)

Read [Hungary statement](#)

Bosnia and Herzegovina: I called on politicians in Republika Srpska to refrain from hateful speech that risks fuelling hate and intolerance against Bosniaks and endangering peace.

Read [my statement](#)

Iceland: I encouraged the Parliament to amend the bill on “Departure Centre” to avoid the detention of children. I welcome recent developments in this regard.

[Read the letter to Parliament](#)

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