

Tuesday 26th October 2015

THE EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY Our key principles up close

Countdown till the third regional dialogue around EU-Arab Partnership
30-31 October 2015
Beirut, Lebanon

EuroMed Non-Governmental Platform
Plate-forme non gouvernementale EuroMed
مركز المنظمات غير الحكومية للمنتدى الأروموسطى

annd
Arab NGO Network for Development
شبكة المنظمات العربية غير الحكومية للتطوير

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The new EU-Arab partnership should focus on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights!

SOLIDAR together with the Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND) and the Euromed NGO Platform is organising the Third EU Regional conference on the EU-ARAB Partnership, from 30-31 October 2015.

On 30 October 2015, 80 participants from Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) from the Arab region and Europe, will discuss the ongoing challenges in the MENA region related to uphold, promote and fulfill Human Rights, including Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCRs). **MEP Richard Howitt, member of the Committee for Foreign Affairs and Subcommittee on Human Rights**, will join this panel debate in order to shed light on the options for the **implementation of the new EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy**. The conference will also tackle the interplay between human rights approach to poverty reduction and fight against inequalities, and universal social protection systems, and will see the participation of the **Arab Trade Union Confederation and UGTT**.

The discussion will focus on how to tackle extreme inequality, by putting ESCRs at the center of the EU Arab Partnership and give them prominence priority. In this light, SOLIDAR insist that the partnership should:

- Promote **ESCRs in its external relations as a tool to ensure the progressive realisation of all human rights, including the full realisation and enjoyment of the human right to social security for all;**
- Promote the ratification of international human rights instruments, including the **International Covenant of ESCRs**, and its **Optional Protocol**, and promote the transposition into national legislation of international human rights clauses and **ILO core labor standards**, as an instrument to promote the **implementation of National Social Protection Floors (SPF)**, as per ILOR 202, in compliance with human rights principles of **equality, universality and non-discrimination, including accessibility, adaptability, acceptability, and adequacy.**
- promote, though its external policy frameworks such as the **European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy**, the **implementation of ILO recommendation 202 on National Floors of Social Protection**, and adopt a roadmap to integrate the implementation the **four social security guarantees** in EU external policies and programming documents (Action Plans, Single Support Frameworks).

Read more about **SOLIDAR's** input into the EU Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy [here](#).

SOLIDAR and its members and partners are organising the **European Neighbourhood Days** that will take place from 16th & 17th November 2015 in Brussels. You can register now for our two public events;

'Defending Civil Society Space. EU-Arab Dialogue: Rebuilding relations with European Southern Neighbourhood Countries'

Seminar organised by CONCORD, Euromed Non-Governmental Platform and the Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND).

16 November 2015 , 09:30 – 16:30 at the EESC

[Programme](#)

[Online Registration](#)

'The EU as a peace promoter in the Middle East and North Africa: between human rights and security'

Roundtable debate organised by SOLIDAR, Euromed Non-Governmental Platform and the Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND) hosted by Pier Antonio Panzeri , MEP.

17 November 2015, 18:00 – 20:00 at the European Parliament

[Programme](#)

[Online Registration](#)

EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY DAYS

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JOIN US 16- 17 NOVEMBER 2015
Brussels

With public debates on

Defending Civil Society Space. EU-Arab Dialogue:
Rebuilding relations with European Southern Neighbourhood Countries

The EU as a peace promoter in the Middle East and North Africa: between human rights and security



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