



» Morocco

EMHRN Factsheet: ENP Progress Report 2013

EMHRN summary of ENP Morocco Progress Report and recommendations for the next report.

Credit: Reuters

In its ENP Progress Report, the EU calls upon Morocco to “speed up the introduction of the new constitution by adopting all the organic laws laid down and by establishing the structures and mechanisms relating thereto,” and to “promote actively the contribution of civil society in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of public policy.” The report also makes recommendations in the following areas:

Freedom of Association and Assembly

Referring to violations of freedom of assembly which occurred in 2013, the EU calls upon Morocco to:

- Ensure respect for the exercise of freedoms of association, assembly and expression for all citizens, and adopt a Press Code in consultation with all the stakeholders.

EMHRN asks that the EU call upon Morocco to:

- *Effectively guarantee the freedom of Moroccan citizens to assemble, protest peacefully and express their opinions, even when these are critical of state institutions;*
- *Release the demonstrators who have been convicted arbitrarily and drop the charges against them;*
- *Respect the procedure as provided by law for the establishment of associations and implement effectively and systematically the issuance of receipts of declaration. Guarantee the right to appeal as set forth by law against any administrative decision where refusal to register an association is involved. In addition, register the declarations of all associations which have submitted their files and whose requests remain unanswered, including those taking an interested in the situation in Western Sahara.*



Gender

In its report, the EU takes up the main requests of Moroccan NGOs on issues related to women's rights and equality namely:

- Accelerate the implementation of Morocco's plan for equality and operationalise the Authority for Equality and the Fight against all Forms of Discrimination (APALD) operational.

EMHRN demands that the EU call upon the Moroccan authorities to involve Moroccan NGOs in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the government's plan for equality.

Justice

The EU raises the need to reform of the judiciary and safeguard its independence, calling upon Morocco to:

- Effectively implement the reform of the judiciary system in accordance with the Charter for the Reform of the Judicial System, accompanied by an adequate funding plan;
- Ensure that civilians are no longer tried in military courts as provided for by draft law 108/03;
- Expedite the introduction of Morocco's new constitution by adopting all the organic laws and establishing the structures and mechanisms relating thereto;
- Actively promote the contribution of civil society in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of public policy.

In this regard, the EU should demand:

- *Assurances that the proposed laws for reforming the judicial system, based on the Charter of the Judiciary System Reform, are in line with international standards.*

Immigration

As regard the question of migrants and refugees, the EU calls upon Morocco to:

- Implement a migration and asylum policy in accordance with the recommendations of the National Human Rights Council, guaranteeing the rights of migrants;
- Develop a strategy that takes into account the impact of migration on public policy in Morocco.

EMHRN calls upon the EU to include the following recommendations in the next monitoring report:

- *Fully guarantee the rights of migrants and refugees in an irregular situation by combating the impunity of those responsible for police violence toward migrants, as well as refoulement and collective expulsions to the border;*
- *Introduce an asylum system and legislation on migration conforming with article 30 of the constitution and the international conventions ratified by Morocco designed to protect and promote the rights of migrants and refugees, both in law and in practice;*
- *Comply with international conventions prohibiting collective expulsions such as the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to which Morocco is a signatory, and allow any person in an irregular situation to assert their procedural rights before the court.*

The **Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network** is a network of more than 80 human rights organisations, institutions and individuals based in 30 countries in the Euromed region. The Network is deeply attached to universal human rights principles and convinced of the value of cooperation and dialogue across and within borders.



EURO-MEDITERRANEAN HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK
RESEAU EURO-MEDITERRANÉEN DES DROITS DE L'HOMME
الشبكة الأوروبية - المتوسطية لحقوق الإنسان