

EN

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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(1.4.2025)

The EU reiterates the importance of upholding and protecting the right to freedom of expression, along with all human rights, while defending their universality.

Strengthening media freedom and ensuring the safety of journalists remain longstanding, key priorities for EU external action, as underlined by the EU Action Plan for Human Rights and Democracy 2020-2027¹ and the EU Guidelines on Freedom of Expression Online and Offline².

Moreover, respect for democratic principles and fundamental rights is an essential element of the EU-Morocco Association Agreement³, which forms the foundation of EU-Morocco relations. Given the Kingdom of Morocco's membership in the United Nations Human Rights Council for the 2023-2025 period, the EU expects additional opportunities to engage with the country on the protection and promotion of human rights.

Questions regarding human rights, including freedom of expression and freedom of the media, are addressed in regular exchanges with the Moroccan authorities and civil society organisations.

¹ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/2024/Action-Plan-EN_2020-2027.pdf

² https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/09_hr_guidelines_expression_en.pdf

³ (Article 2) <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/FR/ALL/?uri=CELEX%3A22000A0318%2801%29>