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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(21.8.2026)

The EU reiterates the importance of upholding and protecting all human rights, while defending their universality. The EU recalls in particular the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners¹, which is an essential component of the rule of law and protection of human dignity worldwide.

Respect for democratic principles and fundamental rights is an essential element of the EU-Morocco Association Agreement², which forms the foundation of EU-Morocco relations.

Questions regarding human rights, including individual cases, are addressed in the framework foreseen under the Association Agreement, including a dedicated sub-committee, and other regular exchanges with the Moroccan authorities. In addition, the EU conducts a regular dialogue with civil society and non-governmental organisations that closely monitor human rights issues. The EU Delegation to Morocco also regularly coordinates locally with Member States as well as like-minded states on human rights issues.

As regards Western Sahara, the EU continues to support the United Nations-led process, in line with UN Security Council resolution 2797(2025)³, and the efforts of the UN Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy to advance a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution.

¹ https://www.unodc.org/documents/justice-and-prison-reform/Nelson_Mandela_Rules-E-ebook.pdf

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

³ [https://docs.un.org/en/s/res/2797\(2025\)](https://docs.un.org/en/s/res/2797(2025)).