The Human Rights and Democracy Network (HRDN) is not involved in deciding on the next EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. However, if we were, our job advertisement would read as follows:

**Call for new European Union Foreign Policy Chief**

The EU is currently seeking a new EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. The purpose of the job is to ensure that EU foreign policy is consistent with the EU’s commitment to human rights, democracy, rule of law and conflict prevention as stated in Article 21 of the Lisbon Treaty.

The successful candidate will lead the EU in exercising a firm and coherent approach to human rights abuses worldwide, basing themselves on international human rights and humanitarian law. He/she will put the rights of people at the center of EU dialogues with third countries and will work to ensure that impunity for violations is ended. The ideal candidate should also understand that in order to have an impact on the world he/she will have to work hand-in-hand with the 28 EU Member States.

**Key responsibilities:**
The successful candidate will:

- Ensure the **effective implementation** of the EU Strategic Framework and Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy as well as its comprehensive revision and renewal in 2015;

- Coordinate swift **EU positions and public responses** to human rights violations and situations of violent conflict and use his/her dual position as EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission to ensure that the EU speaks with one voice;

- Throw his/her full weight behind defenders of justice, liberty, democracy and human rights throughout the world, and make it a **non-negotiable element** of his/her policy to meet with human rights defenders and democracy activists during all visits to third countries;

- **Cooperate closely** with civil society organisations in Europe and abroad, consulting and meeting their representatives on a regular basis;

- Represent and promote the EU’s international justice policy worldwide, including on the International Criminal Court, and secure coherent and collective EU positions and subsequent action to ensure that there is justice for the victims of serious international crimes;

- Promote and understand the important role played by **EU Special Representatives**;

- Ensure **full transparency** within his/her own work and that of the European External Action Service.
**Requirements:**

- In-depth understanding of foreign policy and proven ability and willingness to provide a clear vision and leadership for EU foreign policy based on freedom, justice, democracy, equality, the rule of law, the fight against impunity, prevention of violent conflict and respect for human rights;
- Proven interest in human rights and democracy; knowledge of international human rights, criminal and humanitarian law;
- Demonstrated courage to defend and promote difficult issues publicly;
- Proven track-record of successful cooperation with states, international and regional organisations, and civil society organisations;
- Ability to travel and to work flexible hours and on weekends.

The HRDN would welcome a consultation with prospective candidates. To schedule a meeting, please contact troika@hrdn.eu