



Ms Federica Mogherini
High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice
President of the Commission

Mr Stefano Manservigi
Director-General of Directorate-General "International Cooperation and Development"

Brussels, 12th January 2018

Dear Ms. Mogherini,
Dear Mr. Manservigi,

We wish to share our serious concern regarding the EU funding prospects of the European Inter-University Centre (EIUC) and the Global Campus based in Venice.

We are convinced that the EIUC/Global Campus represents a flagship project of the EU's human rights policy, which has provided invaluable human rights training to thousands of European and non-European students and has given unique, global visibility to the EU's collective engagement in favour of human rights education. Significantly, Parliament has always been a steadfast supporter of the long-standing funding by the European Commission under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights to the EIUC.

It has been brought to our attention that DG DEVCO might be considering to reduce substantially the EU contribution to the EIUC/Global Campus, as from the financial year 2018/2019, in addition to an existing agreement of a regular decrease by 1% of the annual contribution. We understand that given the nature of this academic institution, such unforeseen cuts would pose very serious difficulties for the functioning of the EIUC and the Global Campus and its future.

At a time when human rights are facing an unprecedented challenge worldwide and human rights champions are more necessary than ever to defend our universal values, we believe that any weakening of the EU's support to critical human rights institutions such as the EIUC, would send a regrettable signal as regards the EU's continued commitment to the global human rights struggle.

We would hence kindly request you to ensure that the functioning of the EIUC/Global Campus is not put at risk and that it can continue to count on continued and adequate support from the European Commission, commensurate to the importance of this project.

Yours sincerely,

Pier Antonio PANZERI (S&D)
Chair of the Subcommittee on Human Rights

Barbara LOCHBIHLER (Greens/EFA)
Greens/EFA Coordinator for Human Rights and Foreign Affairs

Andrzej GRZYB (EPP)
EPP Coordinator for Human Rights

Soraya POST (S&D)
S&D Coordinator for Human Rights

Petras AUŠTREVČIUS (ALDE)
ALDE Coordinator for Human Rights

Heidi HAUTALA (Greens/EFA)
Vice-President of the European Parliament

Ana GOMES (S&D)