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European Parliament
Rue Wiertz 60
Brussels, B-1047, Belgium

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister of India
South Block, Raisina Hill
New Delhi-110011
India

Brussels, 25th March 2019

Dear Prime Minister Modi,

We, the undersigned, in our capacity as elected Members of the European Parliament, are writing to you to express our grave concern about the past and ongoing human rights violations against people in Kashmir, as reported in a recent [OHCHR](#)¹ report.

We are particularly concerned about the usage of pellet shotguns, responsible for blinding, killing and traumatizing hundreds of people in Kashmir. We particularly note the tragic case of 19-month old child who was gravely injured by a pellet gun ([BBC report](#)). We are concerned that The Armed Forces (Jammu and Kashmir) Special Powers Act 1990 (AFSPA) and the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act 1978 (PSA) give security forces virtual immunity against prosecution for any human rights violation.

Therefore, we, the undersigned MEPs, urge the Indian government to:

-) immediately end the use of pellet-firing shotguns in Jammu and Kashmir and bring all relevant Indian laws into compliance with international human rights standards;
-) urgently repeal the Armed Forces (Jammu and Kashmir) Special Powers Act, 1990 and amend the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978 to ensure its compliance with international human rights law;
-) provide full and effective reparation and rehabilitation to those who have been injured by pellet-firing shotguns, and to the families of those killed;
-) establish independent and impartial investigations into all accidents where the use of pellet-firing shotguns led to deaths or serious injuries.

¹ Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights - Report on the Situation of Human Rights in Kashmir: <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/IN/DevelopmentsInKashmirJune2016ToApril2018.pdf>



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Yours sincerely,

Wajid Khan MEP

Alex Mayer MEP

Amjad Bashir MEP

Sajjad Karim MEP

Julie Ward MEP

Jonathan Arnott MEP

Theresa Griffin MEP

Helga Stevens MEP

Jean Lambert MEP

John Howarth MEP

Derek Vaughan MEP

David Martin MEP

Margrete Auken MEP

Baroness Nosheena Mobarik MEP

Liliana Rodrigues MEP

Rory Palmer MEP

Anthea McIntyre MEP

Maria Arena MEP

Arndt Kohn MEP

Ana Gomes MEP

Siôn Simon MEP

Bart Staes MEP

Soraya Post MEP

Ilhan Kyuchyuk MEP

Elena Valenciano MEP

Julie Girling MEP

Tunne Kelam MEP

Jose Inacio Faria MEP

Lucy Anderson MEP

Richard Corbett MEP

Jude Kirton-Darling MEP

Maria Gabriela Zoană MEP

Barbara Lochbihler MEP

Mary Honeyball MEP

Csaba Sógor MEP

Momchil Nekov MEP

Linda McAvan MEP

Jakop Dalunde MEP

Klaus Buchner MEP

Edouard Martin MEP

Josef Weidenholzer MEP

Eva Kaili MEP

Eugen Freund MEP

Brando Benifei MEP

Paul Brannen MEP

Fabio Massimo Castaldo MEP

Jordi Solé MEP

Andrejs Mamikins MEP

Claude Moraes MEP

Caroline Nagtegaal ME

CC: Ms Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the Commission