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

Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development,  
Neven Mimica

Strasbourg, 18 April 2019

Dear Ms Mogherini,  
Dear Mr Mimica,

We note that several African countries are lagging behind in terms of democracy and development. This situation is likely to lead in the future to a situation that will not be manageable for Europe; especially if we want to start a new partnership with a sense of equality between the countries of the European Union and the ACP countries in terms of the upcoming Post Cotonou Agreement.

In recent years, we have witnessed deterioration in the situation of human rights and civil society as well as democracy in Central Africa and particularly in Chad. Since Chad has long been in such an economic crisis due to the drop in oil prices that nobody is interested in, it is all the more important for us to take a look at the country.

Moreover, even if Chad is involved in the fight against terrorism, the situation of its population, especially young people and women, is not satisfactory. The bad governance that this country is experiencing, coupled with an implacable dictatorship, is a challenge to us all. Arbitrary arrests, bans on demonstrations and bans on social networks for more than a year are just some of the many examples.

It is under these conditions that this regime has been financially and militarily supported by the EU, and France in particular, thus dragging the other countries of the Sahel G5 and particularly Europe into a delicate situation. One of the consequences for young people might remain immigration to Europe in the near future.

To this end, we ask the European Commission to:

- Discuss with the EU governments, namely the French, how to stop implementing harmful policies in Chad.
- Stop supporting the dictatorship of Idriss Deby against its population and instead start helping the country to build a true democracy that guarantees development;



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- Ask its Chadian partners to comply with international conventions and its own law by allowing public meetings and the unconditional opening of social networks without delay;
- Remove any idea of creating a center for the detention of immigrants.

Best regards,

Margrete Auken (Greens/EFA)

Nessa Childers (S&D)

José Inácio Faria (EPP)

Ana Gomes (S&D)

Theresa Griffin (S&D)

Eugen Freund (S&D)

Tunne Kelam (EPP)

Jean Lambert (Greens/EFA)

Barbara Lochbihler (Greens/EFA)

Soraya Post (S&D)

Michèle Rivasi (Greens/EFA)

Alyn Smith (Greens/EFA)

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