

- EUR 5 million with Penal Reform International (PRI) for the improvement of conditions in detention centres.

5. Multilateral context: The mandate of the UN Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) expired in February 2024 after the Sudanese authorities argued against extending the mandate and declared the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General (and Head of UNITAMS), Volker Perthes, persona non grata. In addition to the grant to the OHCHR, the EU supports all UN mandates and positions related to investigations of human rights violations, namely: (i) the mandate of the Designated Independent Expert in Sudan (Mr Radhouan Nouicer); (ii) the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission (composed of Mohamed Chande Othman, Joy Ezeilo, Mona Rishmawi); (iii) the Personal Envoy for Sudan of the UN Secretary-General (Mr. Ramtane Lamamra). The EU supports the International Criminal Court (ICC) on alleged genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in in Darfur since 2002 ((when the Rome Statute entered into force). The ICC mandate on Darfur began in 2005. The monitoring and reporting activities by the OHCHR in particular are expected to feed the work of these investigative mechanisms, which in turn should provide evidence for the ICC Prosecutor’s work.

United Republic of Tanzania

1. Overview of the human rights and democracy situation: Vocal calls for a new Constitution and electoral reforms dominated national debate in 2023. Political opposition, civil society and the work of a Presidential Commission on Reforms raised demand for an independent electoral body before upcoming elections in 2024 and 2025. President Samia Suluhu Hassan sustained throughout the year a narrative of ‘4Rs’ representing Reconciliation, Resilience, Reforms and Rebuilding, aimed at maintaining peace and stability in Tanzania, which she defined as a democratic country. Overall, the human rights situation of the country still presents challenges, in particular for some categories of HRDs, for key vulnerable and marginalised population (pastoralist communities, PLWD, LGBTI, migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, prisoners), women (especially adolescent girls) and journalists.

A number of key national strategies or reforms are still in process: a second National Human Rights Action Plan; the new Business and Human Rights Action Plan. The Child Marriage Act was also not amended yet, with approximately over 30% of girls married under 18. Several challenges remain due to widespread poverty and substantial weaknesses in protection systems, especially in the rural areas, also because of weak community awareness about some forms of violence (FGM, child marriage, corporal punishment, domestic violence, trafficking of minors). In October 2023 Tanzania hosted the 2nd International Conference on Female Genital Mutilation, organised by the African Union, with support of the EU and UN agencies. Gender equality and women’s empowerment is a clear priority for Tanzania under President Samia. Tanzania’s advancements include the re-entry policy for girls in the education system (particularly those pregnant), the approval of the new National Gender Policy as well as preparation of revised plans to fight Gender based Violence and the increase of legal aid provisions. The number of women holding top positions (including the Ministers of Defence, Constitutional and legal affairs, Health, Industry and trade, Natural resources and tourism, Community development and gender) clearly bears witness to this engagement.

The Presidential Commission on Criminal Justice Reforms presented in 2023 a report addressing gaps in the criminal justice system. Recommendations included a proposal that death sentences that are not implemented within three years should automatically turn to life sentences. The EU Delegation, Belgium and Ireland also sponsored a multi stakeholder consultation on the abolition of the death penalty organised by the Bar Association. In December 2023, the European Parliament passed a resolution on the Maasai communities in Tanzania, calling on the government to recognise and protect the rights of IPLCs. Freedom of expression continued to be a challenge as seen on the critics of the agreement between UAE-based DP World and the government on the Dar es Salaam port were detained by authorities but later released. The Forum on Internet Freedoms in Africa was held in September 2023 with the Ministers for Information of Uganda and Tanzania, the latter promising that internet will not be shut down at elections time. Same-sex relations are illegal and there is no political will to decriminalise. At least three people received a 30-year prison sentence as part of the LGBTI crackdown in the country (two of them successfully appealed and were released).

2. EU action - key focus areas:

- Protecting and empowering individuals: EU Delegation and Member States have taken gender equality and women empowerment as one of the main priority for this programming period. Gender Based violence, women leadership are prioritized throughout several EU and Member States' programmes and outreach activities. Moreover, the EU continued implementing projects on human rights, in particular related to HRDs and business and human rights in the mining sector.
- Building resilient, inclusive and democratic societies: EU Delegation continued to implement projects in the area of Rule of Law, fighting corruption and providing legal aid; democracy and raising voices of youth and women. The EU supported interparty dialogue in Zanzibar, focusing on youth and women members of all main political parties.
- Promoting a global system for human rights and democracy: The EU continued to follow and promote dialogue among civil society engaged in the electoral cycle and between civil society and public authorities on recommendations from election observation and monitoring.
- New technologies: harnessing opportunities and addressing challenges: EU Delegation efforts focused on the digitalisation sector with a newly approved NDICI programme. EU also continued its support to the media sector including in the digital/on-line sphere through civil society.

3. EU bilateral political engagement: The EU and Tanzania held in February 2023 a political dialogue and addressed issues of mutual interest including human rights and democracy, the need to enhance cooperation on gender and youth, and to continue promoting rule of law and fundamental rights.

4. EU financial engagement: Under the NDICI MIP for Tanzania, EUD pursued the implementation of a programme tackling all six priorities of the EU Gender Action Plan III, for an amount of EUR 70 million with an additional EUR 20 million on girls' education. Specific

projects under NDICI-HR / EIDHR and CSO allocations were directed to Human Rights and business in the extractive industry, and the promotion of Human Rights.

5. Multilateral context: Tanzania presented in 2023 a Voluntary National Review of the 2030 Agenda. It reports, among other things, that the NHRI investigated almost 10,000 cases and 'resolved' 5,000 of them. Tanzania has not ratified the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT). Tanzania submitted the latest State Party report to the HRC in 2009. On the list of issues prior to reporting related to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) Cycle, the Tanzania report was due in April 2022, UN OHCHR is supporting the preparation of the report through a dedicated roadmap. The State Party Report was scheduled for submission at the end of 2023. The Government still works of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) report, due since March 2020. The report on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRDP) is under finalisation but still due. Likewise, the reporting on the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) and others are still due. It should however be noted that the 77th Ordinary Session of the AfCHPR in October 2023 was hosted and financed by Tanzania. As a follow-up to the UPR, the UN in Tanzania will be supporting the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs in defining a strategy on mid-term review and reporting 2024 and support to National Consultations. CSOs have elaborated a matrix to follow up the implementation of UPR recommendations. The 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was commemorated with the presence of the East Africa Regional Representative of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, who also engaged with authorities. The EU and Member States collaborated with UN Women, UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and UNICEF in activities and campaigns against gender-based violence, including child marriage.

Togolese Republic

1. Overview of the human rights and democracy situation: The Human rights and democracy situation in Togo did not really improve in 2023. The country has seen no real political alternation for 57 years, and is ruled with a presidential system. At present, the National Assembly is re-examining (after having approved it a first time) a proposal to reform the Constitution, which will change the country system from presidential to parliamentary, thereby giving the effective power to a President of the Council of Ministers (PCM), while the President of the Republic would have only a ceremonial role. However, the timing of the proposal (voted after the end of the mandate of the Assembly) and the lack of a real public debate on its main features raises doubts on the legitimacy of this process. In the new system, there would not be limits for the number of mandates for the PCM. In this context, tensions between the presidential majority and the opposition have increased, protest manifestations were forbidden and some opponents were arrested. Three political opponents remain in prison despite a judicial ruling ordering their release, and the rulings of the ECOWAS Court of Justice condemning the Togolese government for torture and arbitrary detention have not been executed.

The freedom of press and media is limited. Independent media are often shut down, and there is evidence that the spyware Pegasus has been used against journalists and human rights activists. In February 2023, two newspapers were suspended for three months, and in March,