

European Parliament urges the EU to fight caste discrimination

On 10 October 2013, the European Parliament adopted a strongly worded resolution on caste discrimination. The resolution calls on EU institutions to recognise and address caste discrimination as a distinct ground of discrimination on par with ethnicity, race, religion, gender and sexuality; to include the issue in EU legislation and human rights policies; and to raise it at the highest level with governments of caste-affected countries.

Prior to adopting the resolution on caste discrimination, MEPs from a wide cross-section of political groups spoke passionately about the topic and condemned this form of discrimination in very strong terms. Some even argued that goods from caste-affected countries should be boycotted, and there was broad agreement that EU institutions are not doing enough to address the issue.

The resolution has been covered by a number of media outlets, including The New York Times and The Guardian. These links present an overall picture of the resolution, the debate and the media coverage.

Links to the resolution and debate

[European Parliament resolution of 10 October 2013 on caste-based discrimination](#)

[Download the motion for a resolution on caste discrimination](#)

[Click here for the oral questions on caste discrimination](#)

[Watch a webcast of the EP debate on caste discrimination](#)

[English language transcript of the EP debate on caste discrimination](#)

[Official transcript of the EP debate on caste discrimination](#) (in original languages)

Press releases/News

[IDSN: European Parliament urges the EU to fight caste discrimination](#)

[S&Ds call for targeted action against caste-based discrimination](#)

[ALDE: The EU must fight caste-based discrimination](#)

[Untouchables: stop discriminations based on castes](#) (Greens)

[EP press release on the resolution](#)

[EP: Combating caste-based discrimination](#)

[DSN-UK: The European Parliament passes resolution on Dalits](#)

Press clippings

[An interview with IDSN coordinator Rikke Nöhrind](#) (New York Times - India Ink)

[India's caste campaigners win EU backing to end 'apartheid' conditions](#) (The Guardian)

[The world is looking at caste discrimination, finally](#) (New Internationalist)

[Caste discrimination a global evil, says European Parliament](#) (The Hindu)

[It is high time India tackled the 'evil' of the caste system](#) (The National)

[The EU flexes its muscles on caste](#) (Oped, The Hindu)

[Against caste in Europe](#) (Frontline Magazine)

Background information / Parliamentary Action

[The European Parliament and caste discrimination \(IDSN\)](#)

[Motion for a resolution \(UK\) on caste discrimination legislation urging the EU to step up its efforts](#)