

Caste related extracts from the 2023 European Parliament's annual report on human rights and democracy in the world and the European Union's policy on the matter

European Parliament resolution of 18 January 2023 on human rights and democracy in the world and the European Union's policy on the matter – annual report 2022 (2022/2049(INI))

https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2023-0011_EN.pdf

Under *Women's rights, women's empowerment and gender equality*

62. Reiterates the need for robust action to ensure full implementation of GAP III; calls for the EU, as set out in GAP III, to strongly address intersectionality by developing a policy to fight the multiple forms of discrimination faced by the millions of women and girls who are victims of caste-based, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights violations, including sexual abuse and violence, displacement, forced and/or bonded labour, prostitution and trafficking;

Under *Intolerance, xenophobia and discrimination*

73. Underlines its opposition to and condemnation of intolerance, xenophobia and discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, nationality, social class, disability, caste, religion, belief, age, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity, which in many of the world's regions leads to killings and persecution, especially in conflict situations; stresses that racism, discrimination, xenophobia, religious persecution and related intolerance continue to be a major problem worldwide, leading to rights violations in all spheres of life, including access to education, healthcare, work and access to justice, and that these issues have been further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; calls for the EU and its Member States to lead the global fight against antisemitism and welcomes the adoption of the EU strategy to this end; calls on the Commission, the EEAS and EU delegations to develop, in collaboration with the Member States and with input from Parliament, specific local strategies to help fight caste-based discrimination in the countries most affected by it, in dialogue with local representatives and civil society organisations, and to invite them to consultations resulting from EU agreements or instruments, including human rights dialogues;

74. Recommends that Parliament address caste-based discrimination in all its relevant committees (the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Development and International Trade and the Subcommittee on Human Rights) and delegations, appoint a focal point person on caste-based discrimination and, when visiting countries affected by the issue, consult with Dalit organisations, raise caste-based discrimination with Parliament's counterparts and with the authorities and hold a hearing to review EU actions and progress as part of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;