

Cunningham Gerry HQ-POLITICAL

Subject: FW: Background Note- Special Envoy or Ambassadors for Human Rights in the EU and Likeminded
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From: Cunningham Gerry HQ-POLITICAL
Sent: Wednesday 4 August 2021 09:08
To: Cunningham Gerry HQ-POLITICAL <Gerry.Cunningham@dfa.ie>
Subject: FW: Background Note- Special Envoy or Ambassadors for Human Rights in the EU and Likeminded

From: Cunningham Gerry HQ-POLITICAL
Sent: Thursday 29 July 2021 09:58
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PSM

Please find attached a background note providing an indicative list of Human Rights Ambassadors across a selection of ten EU Member States, as well as in the UK and US. This is obviously not an exhaustive list so please do not hesitate to let us know should need further information in specific areas.

In summary...

- The majority adopt an overall “Ambassador at Large” approach.
- Additional special responsibilities are common e.g. Media/online freedom (EE, FI, NL); Religion freedom/holocaust (EE; SE) Democracy/RoL (FI, LT, ES); HRDs (FR, LU); LGBTI (IT); B&HR (IT, LU); Gender (LT, NL).
- The Ambassadors from FR; NL; DE; SE all seem to attach a high priority to maintaining a close dialogue with wider civil society; mainstreaming human rights across foreign policy; and representation in relevant multilateral fora at HRC/UPR or on specific topics at HRC/UPR; EU/CoE/OSCE fora etc
- Only one appears to be a career diplomat (IT)
- A few countries have additional “special envoys” (Religion - NL, UK). The US does not appear to have an “Ambassador at Large” but has “Special Envoys” on LGBTI, Religious Freedom, and on Gender Equality.

We are happy to follow up in due course in relation to any queries

Regards

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