

MIL. CARLOS FERREIRA MARQUE
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF PORTUGAL

Questions of the EU to the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism ~~(2005)~~ ~~(2006)~~ ASSESSMENT MANDATE

The EU wishes to congratulate the mandate holder for the work done in developing this important mandate. The task undertaken since 2005 was certainly challenging, in view also of the great number of international actors that focus on the question of countering terrorism. You have proven the added value of your mandate while taking particular care to avoid overlap and maintaining close contact with major actors in the UN system. The cooperation with other special procedures and with the secretariat was equally essential in producing results in an effective way.

Allow us to ask a few questions which will be mainly forward looking, as we are confident that this mandate will be renewed with broad support at the end of our present session.

Your mandate highlights the complementary nature of international humanitarian law and human rights law, which is an important matter.

Over the previous three years you have gained some experience in this regard. Could you provide us with some of your insights?

In the fight against terrorism we find that there is often a delicate balance between respect for privacy and security requirements.

This question certainly deserves due attention in the framework of your mandate. What are your experiences thus far and how would you wish this question to be taken further in the future.

In your initial mandate as approved by the former Commission on Human rights we put great emphasis on the necessity to avoid overlap and to cooperate with other relevant international mechanisms.

Which have been the main relevant mandates that were instrumental in ensuring the cooperative approach to the question of promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism?

What other United Nations bodies and mechanisms have proven to be essential in delivering results?