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## **Human Rights Council**

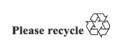
**Fifty-fifth session**26 February–5 April 2024
Agenda item 4

Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Note verbale dated 24 March 2024 from the Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the secretariat of the Human Rights Council

The Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva hereby submits a press statement of the Permanent Mission of the DPRK dated 24 March 2024 with regard to the draft resolution on the situation of human rights in the DPRK presented by the European Union at the fifty-fifth session of the Human Rights Council (see annex).

The Permanent Mission kindly requests that the present note verbale and the annex thereto\* be circulated immediately as received to all Members and observers of the Human Rights Council and recorded as a document of the Council in the languages of the United Nations.





<sup>\*</sup> Reproduced as received, in the language of submission only.

Annex to the note verbale dated 24 March 2024 from the Permanent Mission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the secretariat of the Human Rights Council

## Press Statement of the Permanent Mission of the DPRK to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva dated 24 March 2024

Recently, the EU submitted again the draft "resolution" slandering the DPRK's genuine policy of protecting and promoting human rights and its actual situation to the 55th Session of the UN Human Rights Council.

The submitting of the anti-DPRK draft "resolution", which has become an inveterate evil practice of the EU, is nothing but a clearly politically-motivated plot utterly contrary to the purpose and principle of the UN Charter which stipulates respect for sovereignty and non-interference in other's internal affairs and to the efforts of the UN member states to protect and promote human rights through dialogue and cooperation.

It is the core of the draft "resolution" of the EU to insist on the infringement upon sovereignty under the signboard of "protecting human rights".

The Permanent Mission of the DPRK to the UN Office and other International Organizations in Geneva brands the recent draft "resolution" submitting of the EU as a grave political provocation pursuant to the U.S. hostile policy toward the DPRK to bring down its social system, and vehemently denounces and rejects it.

Today the fair international community is sneering at the shamelessness of the EU countries, in which all sorts of human rights abuses are rampant as malignant cancer, as they are styling themselves the "human rights founders" and "human rights model" and trying to teach others.

Many member states of the UN Human Rights Council maintain their stand that the "human rights resolutions" against specific countries are nothing but politicized documents which are not recognized by relevant countries.

It is the European countries where typical human rights abuses such as racial discrimination, maltreatment of immigrants, human trafficking, police violence and sexual abuse are rampant and children, disabled persons and old people who deserve social protection are forsaken as victims of all social evils.

The EU is the very one that brought about the worst humanitarian crisis by destroying the stability and creating discord among the Middle East and African countries and is taking a cold attitude being unrelated to innocent refugees whether they drown in the Mediterranean Sea to death or suffer from coldness and diseases in refugee camps.

The EU is besmirching the sacred UN human rights arena by fabricating someone's non-existing "human rights issue" though it could not properly settle even its existing and urgent human rights abuses. This is not because it is truly interested in protecting and promoting human rights.

It is the main purpose of the "improvement of human rights" touted by the EU to justify its interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states under the pretext of "human rights and democracy", distorting the universal definition of human rights and preaching its "values".

No one or no other international law gave the EU an authority to interfere in internal affairs of independent sovereign states and impose its principle on them.

The "strategic independence" and "independence" advocated by Europe will only highlight the true nature of the EU which is strategically subordinated to the U.S. policy of hegemony.

The protection of human rights and the defence of sovereignty are inseparably related.

The DPRK regarding the people-first principle as its state policy will as ever fulfill its responsibility and role to defend the sovereign right of the state and protect and promote the human rights of the people.