



EUROPEAN UNION

Permanent Delegation to the United Nations Office  
and other international organisations in Geneva

**UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

**27th session**

**Clustered Interactive Dialogue with  
The Special Rapporteur on indigenous peoples and  
the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP)**

**17 September 2014**

**EU Intervention**

The EU would like to thank the **Special Rapporteur** for her first report to the Human Rights Council containing some preliminary reflections on the status of operationalization of international standards relating to indigenous peoples and her vision for the future work under the mandate.

The EU pays very close attention to the ongoing obstacles identified in the Special Rapporteur's report to the full and effective protection of the rights of indigenous peoples. We reaffirm our support to the 2007 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which marked a significant milestone for all of us – member states and indigenous peoples. As we have noted previously, the Declaration is an important instrument for promoting human rights. However, the realization of the Declaration rests upon on the determination and continued commitment to the implementation of its objectives. We encourage all efforts to achieve the objectives of the Declaration so as to ensure full respect for the rights of indigenous peoples.

The EU also welcomes the report of the **Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples** on its seventh session. We thank the EMRIP members for their proposals and advice submitted to the HRC. We would like to underline the importance of EMRIP being a venue for providing the Council with relevant thematic expertise and we consider their proposals to be of great value for the work of the Council. We would like to thank the EMRIP for finalizing the study on access to

justice in the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples, the study related to disaster risk reduction, prevention and preparedness initiatives, as well as their summary of the responses to the questionnaire seeking the views of the States and indigenous peoples regarding the UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Finally, we would like to express our support to your respective mandates.