COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2023/259

of 6 February 2023

extending the mandate of the European Union Special Representative for Human Rights and amending Decision (CFSP) 2019/346

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 33 and Article 31(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

(1) On 25 July 2012, the Council agreed to appoint a European Union Special Representative (EUSR) for Human Rights.

(2) On 28 February 2019, the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2019/346 ([1]) appointing Mr Eamon GILMORE as the European Union Special Representative for Human Rights. The EUSR's mandate is to expire on 28 February 2023.

(3) The EUSR's mandate should be extended for a further period of 12 months and a new financial reference amount for the period from 1 March 2023 to 29 February 2024 should be established.

(4) The EUSR will implement the mandate in the context of a situation which may deteriorate and could impede the achievement of the objectives of the Union's external action as set out in Article 21 of the Treaty,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Decision (CFSP) 2019/346 is amended as follows:

(1) Article 1 is replaced by the following:

'*Article 1*

European Union Special Representative

The mandate of Eamon GILMORE as the European Union Special Representative (EUSR) for Human Rights is extended until 29 February 2024. The Council may decide that the mandate of the EUSR be terminated earlier, based on an assessment by the Political and Security Committee (PSC) and a proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HR).';

(2) in Article 5(1), the following subparagraph is added:

'The financial reference amount intended to cover the expenditure related to the EUSR's mandate for the period from 1 March 2023 to 29 February 2024 shall be EUR 1 567 461,56.';

(3) in Article 12, the second sentence is replaced by the following:

'The EUSR shall present the Council, the HR and the Commission with regular progress reports and a final comprehensive mandate implementation report by 30 November 2023.'.

([1]) Council Decision (CFSP) 2019/346 of 28 February 2019 appointing the European Union Special Representative for Human Rights (OJ L 62, 1.3.2019, p. 12).

Article 2

Entry into force

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 6 February 2023.

For the Council
The President
J. ROSWALL