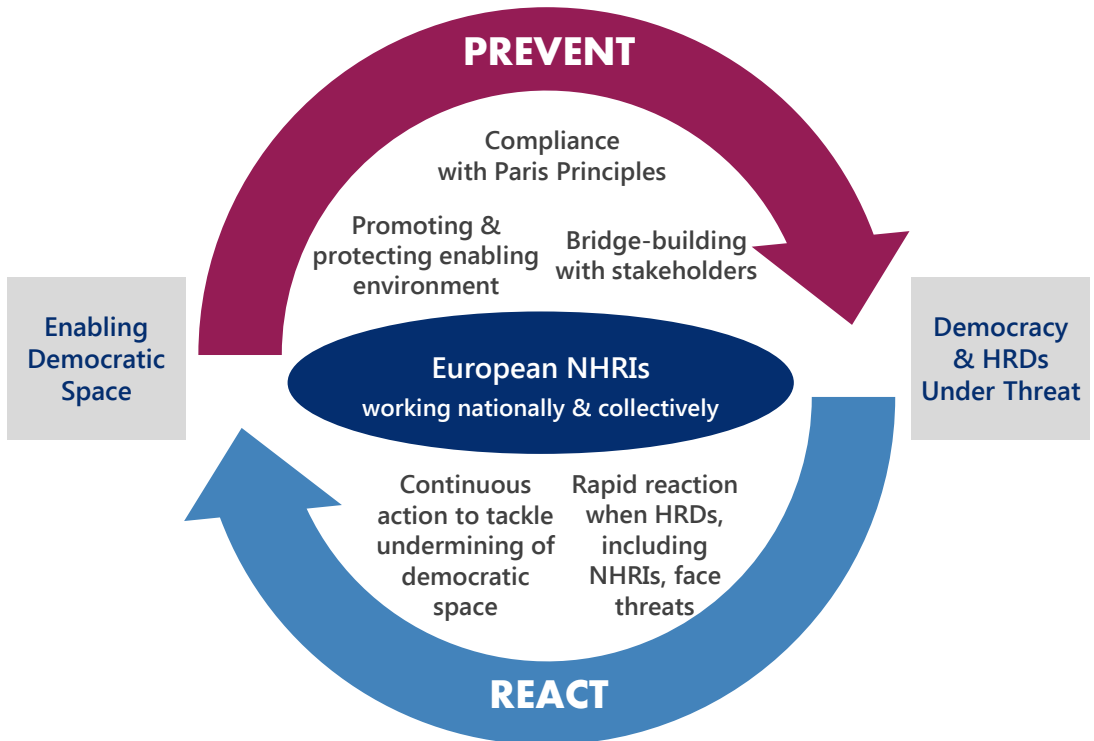


Regional Action Plan on
GANHRI Marrakesh Declaration

NHRI Action to Promote & Protect Human Rights
Defenders (HRDs) & Enable Democratic Space



European NHRIs (nationally)



ENNHRI (European NHRIs collectively)

Compliance with Paris Principles

Take steps to ensure full compliance with Paris Principles and so act as independent and pluralistic HRDs

Promoting an enabling environment

- Raise awareness of the role of HRDs in democratic societies
- Support effective participation of civil society HRDs in policy and legislative processes
- Promote human rights education and the use of social media, easy language and fact-based positive messages
- Promote national HRD guidelines/model laws

Protecting an enabling environment

- Conduct data collection and reporting on democratic space
- Monitor and intervene in legislative and policy processes concerning independent state authorities, NGOs, individual HRDs, and related fundamental rights

Bridge-building with stakeholders

- Promote open dialogue between CSO/HRDs and state authorities
- Cooperate with stakeholders for effective implementation of international/regional standards
- Cooperate with HRDs, including forging new partnerships (youth)

Continuous action to tackle undermining of democratic space

- Introduce HRD focal point within the NHRI
- Provide information to HRDs on actors/tools that can support them if under threat
- Strategic litigation before national and regional courts and facilitate pro bono legal support for CSOs and individual HRDs
- Follow-up recommendations/decisions of international/regional/national actors on HRDs towards state authorities
- Report threats in Annual Reports and other publications

Rapid reaction when HRDs face threats

- Install rapid reaction processes, such as activation of helpline
- Raise public awareness of issue and, where appropriate, specific cases
- Provide legal advice and cooperate with pro bono lawyers
- Conduct complaints-handling and visits to detained HRDs
- Provide support to other NHRIs under threat
- Identify with partners alternative CSO fundraising

Compliance with Paris Principles

Support NHRIs to be established and to function as HRDs, in compliance with the Paris Principles

Promoting an enabling environment

- Include promotion of HRD role in ENNHRI activities
- Develop a database of NHRI key messages and practices, including on rule of law, economic and social rights, and asylum and migration
- NHRI capacity-building on impactful human rights communication
- Data-collection on national HRD guidelines/model laws

Protecting an enabling environment

- Conduct data-collection and reporting on regional trends
- Intervene in legislative and policy processes at regional level, on HRDs and democratic space
- Promote civil society participation in legislative/policy processes on HRDs

Bridge-building with stakeholders

- Link up NHRIs to relevant regional actors and mechanisms
- Cooperate with HRDs (and their networks), including forging new partnerships

Continuous action to tackle undermining of democratic space

- Provide information for NHRIs on regional mechanisms and tools for supporting HRDs, including NHRIs
- Peer-support on interventions before regional courts (CJEU, ECtHR)
- Preventive peer exchange on restrictive country-trends
- Support NHRIs on national implementation of recommendations
- Exchange of information/cooperation in defence of regional human rights frameworks, mechanisms and actors
- Facilitate peer exchange in relation to introduction and functioning of HRD focal points

Rapid reaction when NHRIs face threats

- Operationalise ENNHRI's policy on NHRIs under threat:
- Facilitate peer support among members
 - Where appropriate, raise public awareness
 - Facilitate NHRI access to regional/global protection mechanisms
 - Coordinate approach with partners at regional level for joint rapid response
 - Coordinate with GANHRI for action at global level
 - Establish global fund for rapid response support in-country (TBC)

PREVENT

Ensuring an enabling environment



REACT

Responding to undermining of democracy & HRDs under threat

Mainstream Gender and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) throughout Action Plan



The implementation of the Regional Action Plan is integrated into ENNHRI's Strategic and Operational Plans for 2018-2021. It will also be subject to review and evaluation for consideration in future plans.

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