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Auswärtiges Amt

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To the  
EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and  
Security Policy  
Lady Catherine Ashton

Cc: To the Foreign Ministers of EU Member  
States

Berlin, 1.6.2010

### **Speaking with One Voice on Human Rights and Global Values**

Dear Lady Ashton,

We would like to follow up on the brief discussion we had at our Cordoba meeting in early March on the issue of further strengthening the EU efforts to promote human rights and fundamental values in the framework of our foreign policy. In accordance with our announcement in Cordoba, we have prepared a brief food for thought paper on this matter, which we would like to share with you today.

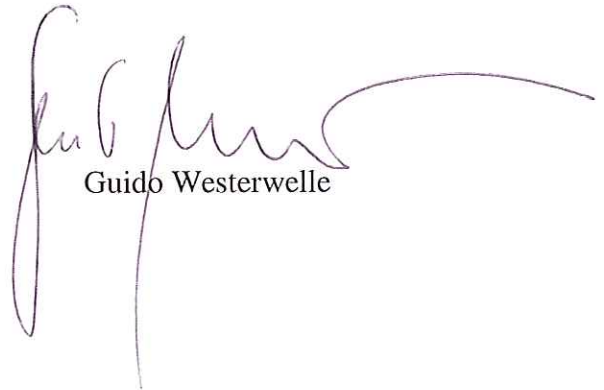
The paper reflects our firm conviction that the EU needs to send out a coherent and audible message in our defence of human rights and global values as a common good of humankind and as an indispensable precondition for international peace, security and development. This should be buttressed by a systematic EU outreach that shifts the issue to the centre of our foreign policy and encompasses the full range of our relations with other states and actors.

We are looking forward to your comments and to a fruitful discussion on the question of further streamlining our manifold efforts to promote the concept of universal and inalienable human rights and to defend it against increasing attempts at relativism.

Sincerely yours,



Lene Espersen



Guido Westerwelle