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Ms Judith Sargentini MEP
Ms Ana Gomes MEP
Mr Charles Tannock MEP
Ms Marita Ulvskog MEP
Mr Olle Schmidt MEP
Mr Alf Svensson MEP
European Parliament
Rue Wiertz 60
1047 Brussels

Dear Members,

Thank you for your letter of 24 January concerning the situation in Eritrea.

The EEAS and the EU Delegation in Asmara have been following recent events in Eritrea very closely and have kept in close touch with other members of the international community who share our concerns. We are seeking to obtain more information directly from the Eritrean authorities.

The EU engages in an active political dialogue with Eritrea in the context of which we raise the importance of respecting human rights, fundamental values and the freedom of speech. We also frequently address issues related to governance, including the respect for the constitution and the release of political prisoners.

We remain alerted to the situation of Eritrean refugees in the Horn of Africa and work together with the Commission, the UNHCR and other international actors on finding solutions to remedy their plight.

Sincerely,

Catherine Ashton

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