

s +41 22 7482040

Permanent Mission of Austria
to the United Nations in Geneva

N° Genf-OV/RECHT/518/2012

The Permanent Mission of Austria presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and, with reference to Note G/SO 2/14(107-9) dated 27 April 2012, has the honour to communicate that Austria attaches great importance to the Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders.

While Austria has no specific legislation concerning human rights defenders, their protection is a matter of particular concern for Austria and the European Union. Austria therefore supported the formulation of EU Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders, which were adopted by the foreign ministers of the European Union in June 2004. These Guidelines implement the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders of 1999.

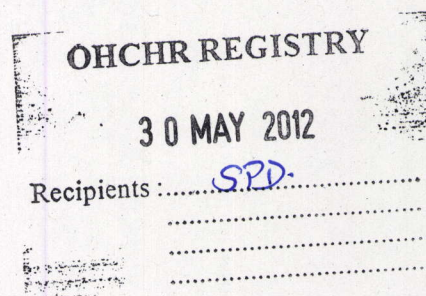
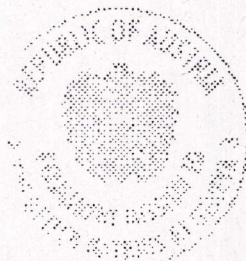
The Permanent Mission of Austria avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 30 May 2012

OHCHR
Special Rapporteur on the
situation of human rights defenders

GENEVA

FAX: 022 917 90 06



29-37, avenue Garibaldi Metz, P.O. Box 68, CH-1211 Geneva 20

Tel: +41 22 7482040

Mail: genhov@bmeia.gv.at

Internet: www.austriaministerien.gv.at/genf