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Negative Brief: China Arms Embargo - good

By Emily & Jeremiah Jensen

NEGATIVE PHILOSOPHY: Human Rights should be our guide

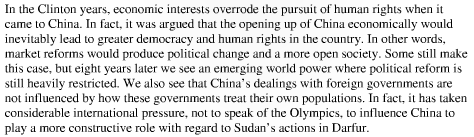
Human rights should guide our foreign policy

Roberta Cohen 2008. Roberta Cohen (MA with distinction from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies; specialist in human rights and humanitarian issues, is Senior Associate at the Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University ) Lecture at the Foreign Service Institute, 2008 INTEGRATING HUMAN RIGHTS IN US FOREIGN POLICY: THE HISTORY, THE CHALLENGES, AND THE CRITERIA FOR AN EFFECTIVE POLICY <http://issuu.com/georgetownsfs/docs/120731162020-b8844e15f9ea464f92fac4352d40eea3/10>

To conclude, let me leave the audience with this thought: what the United States is known and appreciated for around the world is not just its strong economy and military capability. It is its democratic way of life and commitment to the observance of human rights. Our nation defines itself by the Constitution and Bill of Rights, the ending of slavery and segregation, the promotion of equal rights for women, the struggle to end racial and minority discrimination, and the defense of free speech, press, and civil liberties. In its dealings with foreign governments and countries, it must necessarily reflect this identity.

Economic interests should not motivate us to relax human rights pressure on China

Roberta Cohen 2008. Roberta Cohen (MA with distinction from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies; specialist in human rights and humanitarian issues, is Senior Associate at the Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University ) Lecture at the Foreign Service Institute, 2008 INTEGRATING HUMAN RIGHTS IN US FOREIGN POLICY: THE HISTORY, THE CHALLENGES, AND THE CRITERIA FOR AN EFFECTIVE POLICY <http://issuu.com/georgetownsfs/docs/120731162020-b8844e15f9ea464f92fac4352d40eea3/9>



The E.U. embargo could be removed if China made improvements in their human rights

[Richard Weitz](http://thediplomat.com/authors/richard-weitz/) 2012. (director of the Center for Political-Military Analysis and a Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute.) THE DIPLOMAT (The Diplomat is a current-affairs magazine for the Asia-Pacific) “EU Should Keep China Arms Embargo” 12 APRIL 2012. <http://thediplomat.com/2012/04/eu-should-keep-china-arms-embargo/3/>

The EU might consider revoking the embargo later if China made significant progress in improving its human rights practices, but then it would need to establish something solid in its place.

MINOR REPAIR

Deepen European-US dialog about China arms sales

[Richard Weitz](http://thediplomat.com/authors/richard-weitz/) 2012. (director of the Center for Political-Military Analysis and a Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute.) THE DIPLOMAT (The Diplomat is a current-affairs magazine for the Asia-Pacific) “EU Should Keep China Arms Embargo” 12 APRIL 2012. <http://thediplomat.com/2012/04/eu-should-keep-china-arms-embargo/3/>

There are other possible solutions being considered. One proposal is to replace the embargo with a stronger EU “Code of Conduct” on arms exports that would better control arms sales to China. Yet the United States and Japan are skeptical about the efficiency of the current code, which simply requires EU members to inform one another of their arms exports, in preventing the transfer of modern defense technology to China. A stronger code might require that EU members notify their partners of any planned arms sales to China, which would allow for peer review (and ideally peer pressure) of controversial exports. Another option – a good one for many reasons in addition to the arms sales issue – would be to deepen the EU-U.S. dialogue regarding Asian security developments. That would ensure that Europeans appreciate the depth of current American concern about maintaining military balances in Asia and also allow Europeans an opportunity to explain their positions and perspectives, including periodic efforts in the United States to grant waivers to U.S. companies for defense-related sales to China. Enhanced consultations would also help the parties avoid the spectacle we have seen recently in which several European governments have competed to sell sophisticated weapons to Russia with little consultation within NATO circles, which makes the alliance look incoherent.

INHERENCY

1. Europe is reducing cooperation with China

Europeans are focusing more on political and security issues in China, and taking a more cautious approach on cooperation with China

Carolina Laos 2014. (Laos received her Masters in foreign policy from Lund University) (Lund University Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies. The Centre's task is the encouragement and furtherance of research in Sweden concerning modern East and South-East Asia, including the rapidly changing societies, developing economies and political institutions in the region) “Reviewing the EU-China Foreign Affairs: The case study of the EU arms embargo on China” SPRING 2014. <http://lup.lub.lu.se/luur/download?func=downloadFile&recordOId=4499617&fileOId=4499618>

Besides economic matters the EU has recently started to focus more on political and security issues in China too. Due to the fact that the EU has not defined specific goals in foreign affairs with China, the US has more chances to interrupt and embed its own interests into China-EU relations. Another consequence is that China-EU relations are rather unbalanced: the high-tech knowledge is still transferred from the EU to China, but China has not granted replies to the EU´s political demands. Due to that the EU has also adopted more cautious approach towards further cooperation with China.

2. Europe isn’t cheating on the embargo

EU arms embargos are subject to interpretation, but no EU country has actually violated the embargo

Ben Smith. 2013. (MBA in Marketing and Strategy from Boston University Graduate School of Management, BA in Government and International Relations from Clark University.) “Syria: The EU embargo and moves to arm the opposition” 16 APRIL 2013. <http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN06593/SN06593.pdf>

For example, the EU arms embargo against China, in force since 1989, has certainly allowed for flexible interpretation by individual members states. The UK’s interpretation has allowed for the export of goods of potential military application, which have gone through its standard licensing procedures for strategic exports on a case-by-case basis. But the UK nonetheless considers itself to be abiding by the EU arms embargo against China and no member state has challenged this view, at least in public. Human rights groups and other non-state actors have on occasions been critical of how EU arms embargoes are implemented and have alleged violations of them. But there appear to be no examples of an official EU verdict that a member state has acted in violation of an arms embargo, or of any resultant punishment.

Certain military goods are not considered to fall under the embargo

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute 1997. (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute is an independent international institute in Sweden, dedicated to research into conflict, armaments, arms control and disarmament.) “EU arms embargo on China” <http://www.sipri.org/databases/embargoes/eu_arms_embargoes/china>

For the UK and France, it seems that the embargo on China has primarily been taken to cover lethal items and major weapon platforms. However, certain other goods and technologies with potential military applications are not considered to fall under the embargo (though they are still subject to national export control procedures which could lead to a denial of the license required to export). For this reason the UK and France have been able to export to China equipment with military applications -- such as the UK Searchwater radar and the French AS-365N Dauphin-2 helicopter -- in the period since the embargo was imposed.

SOLVENCY

Relaxing the embargo won’t help weaken China’s ties with Russia

[Richard Weitz](http://thediplomat.com/authors/richard-weitz/) 2012. (Weitz is director of the Center for Political-Military Analysis and a Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute.) THE DIPLOMAT (The Diplomat is a current-affairs magazine for the Asia-Pacific) “EU Should Keep China Arms Embargo” 12 APRIL 2012. <http://thediplomat.com/2012/04/eu-should-keep-china-arms-embargo/3/>

In the past, it could be argued that relaxing the embargo could help weaken China’s ties with Russia by reducing Beijing’s dependence on imported Russian military equipment and technologies. But Russian arms sales to China have [already decreased](http://thediplomat.com/2010/04/05/why-china-snubs-russian-arms/) considerably in recent years from their peak due to the rapid improvement in the capabilities of China’s defense industry and the reluctance of Moscow to sell the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) its best defense technologies. Repealing the EU arms embargo could prompt the Russian government to change its policies and permit China to purchase its top-line weapons in order to retain its market share. For example, Russia might sell China long-range strategic bombers, more advanced air defense systems, and naval aviation systems for China’s emerging carrier fleet.

Example: Russia and China strengthening ties because of U.S. sanctions toward Russia

Tom Porter. International Business Times. 2015. (journalist) (The International Business Times is the leading provider of international online coverage of breaking news and current headlines from the US and around the world.) “Russia and China strengthen ties, as Putin looks east in wake of Western sanctions” 08 MARCH 2015. <http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/russia-china-strengthen-ties-putin-looks-east-wake-western-sanctions-1490985>

China has vowed to strengthen its economic and diplomatic cooperation with Russia, in the wake of sanctions imposed by the West in response to the Ukraine crisis. At a meeting of the National People's Congress, China's foreign minister Wang Li told reporters that Russian and Chinese ties were based on "mutual need", reports AFP. "The practical cooperation between China and Russia is based on mutual need, it seeks win-win results and has enormous internal impetus and room for expansion," he said. The announcement comes as declining oil prices and western sanctions [hit the Russian economy](http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/gazprom-profits-slide-61-third-quarter-1485690) hard, with the ruble experiencing unstable rises and drops in value, and the Kremlin searching for [new stable markets](http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/ukraine-crisis-vladimir-putin-claims-russias-market-turmoil-temporary-1438830).

DISADVANTAGES

1. Chinese threat to US national security. This happens both through the specific vector of a possible war over Taiwan and through the general rise of China as a threatening military adversary

Link: Lifting the embargo could make China more threatening

[Richard Weitz](http://thediplomat.com/authors/richard-weitz/) 2012. (Weitz is director of the Center for Political-Military Analysis and a Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute.) THE DIPLOMAT (The Diplomat is a current-affairs magazine for the Asia-Pacific) “EU Should Keep China Arms Embargo” 12 APRIL 2012. <http://thediplomat.com/2012/04/eu-should-keep-china-arms-embargo/3/>

Some U.S. policymakers fear that EU companies might transfer U.S. military technologies to China due to the extensive EU-U.S. defense industrial cooperation.  Members of Congress regularly threaten to limit such cooperation if the EU should lift the arms embargo on China. The retaliation would be even greater if China were ever to use European defense technology of even partial U.S. origin against the U.S. armed forces or those of U.S. allies. Perhaps more importantly, lifting the ban on defense-related technology transfers to China could make the Chinese military more capable and threatening by increasing the country’s access to useful military technologies that Beijing could incorporate in its own weapons.

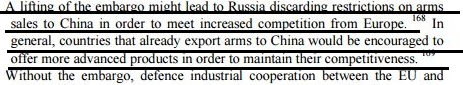
Link: Without the embargo, China will get more advanced weapons

Kristin Archick. Richard F. Grimmett. Shirley Kan. 2005. (Archick is a specialist in European Affairs Foreign Affairs. Grimmett is a specialist in National Defense Foreign Affairs. Kan is a Specialist in National Security Policy Foreign Affairs. ) “European Union’s Arms Embargo on China: Implications and Options for U.S. Policy 15 APRIL 2005.”  <http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/45458.pdf>

The EU argues that the arms embargo — which is not legally binding — is weak and largely symbolic. Indeed, some EU members reportedly have allowed defense related exports to China under the arms embargo. While such sales have raised questions about the effectiveness of the EU’s arms embargo on China, they also point to the potential for future sales of military equipment or technology to China, particularly without the political restraint of the embargo.

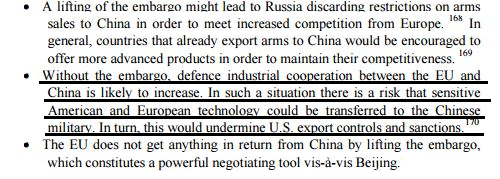
Link: Lifting the embargo means China gets more advanced weapons

Jerker Hellström. The Swedish Defense Research Agency. 2010. (Hellström - head of the Asia programme for the Swedish Defense Research Agency, deputy director for the office of Strategic Analysis under Sweden’s Ministry for Foreign Affairs. The Swedish Defense Research Agency, also known as ForskningsInstitut or FOI in Swedish, is one of Europe’s leading research institutes in the areas of defense and security) “The EU arms embargo on China: a Swedish Perspective” JANUARY 2010. <http://www.foi.se/ReportFiles/foir_2946.pdf>



Link: American technology could be transferred to Chinese military without EU embargo

Jerker Hellström. The Swedish Defense Research Agency. 2010. (Hellström - head of the Asia programme for the Swedish Defense Research Agency, deputy director for the office of Strategic Analysis under Sweden’s Ministry for Foreign Affairs. The Swedish Defense Research Agency, also known as ForskningsInstitut or FOI in Swedish, is one of Europe’s leading research institutes in the areas of defense and security) “The EU arms embargo on China: a Swedish Perspective” JANUARY 2010. <http://www.foi.se/ReportFiles/foir_2946.pdf>



Link: Lifting the ban could send the wrong signals to China and end warming of China/Taiwan relations

[Richard Weitz](http://thediplomat.com/authors/richard-weitz/) 2012. (director of the Center for Political-Military Analysis and a Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute.) THE DIPLOMAT (The Diplomat is a current-affairs magazine for the Asia-Pacific) “EU Should Keep China Arms Embargo” 12 APRIL 2012. <http://thediplomat.com/2012/04/eu-should-keep-china-arms-embargo/3/>

The State Department has also declared it’s concerned that lifting the ban would send the wrong signals to China. For example, Beijing could plausibly interpret the embargo as signifying that Europe is less concerned than thought about China’s human rights practices, its growing and opaque military potential, uphold Beijing’s expansive territorial claims in the South China Sea, or China’s position that it has the right to employ military force to recover Taiwan. Regarding the latter, there’s a particular worry that EU action could precipitate an end to the [recent warming](http://thediplomat.com/2012/02/07/lessons-from-taiwan/) of cross-Strait relations.

Link: China’s military modernization with EU technology would result in U.S.  military intervention in Taiwan

Kristin Archick. Richard F. Grimmett. Shirley Kan. 2005. (Archick is a specialist in European Affairs Foreign Affairs. Grimmett is a specialist in National Defense Foreign Affairs. Kan is a Specialist in National Security Policy Foreign Affairs. ) “European Union’s Arms Embargo on China: Implications and Options for U.S. Policy 15 APRIL 2005.”  <http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/45458.pdf>

Because some European companies have transferred defense-related systems to China under the arms embargo that is not legally binding, the United States has called for the EU to maintain the embargo and strengthen export controls. There are fears that any acceleration of China’s military modernization with European defense technology would result in instability in the Taiwan Strait, which could involve U.S. military intervention.

Brink: Global stability is worsening and Chinese aggression is a growing risk

Agence France Press. The Guardian. 2015. (Agence France Press is a French news agency.) THE GUARDIAN (British newspaper) “Russia and China pose largest security threats, says US military report” 01 JULY 2015. <http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/jul/01/russia-china-us-mlitary-national-security>

America’s new military strategy singles out states like [China](http://www.theguardian.com/world/china) and [Russia](http://www.theguardian.com/world/russia) as aggressive and threatening to US security interests, while warning of growing technological challenges and worsening global stability. A somber report released Wednesday by General Martin Dempsey, the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, warns of a “low but growing” probability of the US fighting a war with a major power, with “immense” consequences.

Impact: Lifting E.U. arms embargo would increase risk to American forces

Ashley J. Tellis. Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. 2014. (TELLIS is a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, specializing in international security, defense, and Asian strategic issues. He was commissioned into the Foreign Service and served as senior adviser to the ambassador at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi. He also served on the National Security Council staff as special assistant to the president and as senior director for Strategic Planning and Southwest Asia.) (The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace is a foreign-policy think tank) “BALANCING WITHOUT CONTAINMENT: An American Strategy for Managing China” <http://carnegieendowment.org/files/balancing_without_containment.pdf>

Although the European Union’s arms embargo on China, which has been in place since the 1989 massacre in Tiananmen Square, has curbed the sales of major European weapon systems to China, there have been periodic efforts made by American allies, such as France and Germany, to either repeal the embargo or replace it with alternative instruments of uncertain efficacy.  Although these attempts at loosening extant controls have been driven by either pecuniary reasons or the desire to support their proponents’ national defense industries, it is vital that Washington’s partners understand the effects these changes would have on the United States. Any significant military or defense technology acquisitions by Beijing could sharply increase the risk to American forces at a time when conflict with China is not impossible—and when China is already advantaged by its access to many sophisticated Russian military systems, which Moscow continues to sell to Beijing either due to the penury of Russia’s own military industrial complex, the self-serving calculations of Russia’s current leadership, or Russian President Vladimir Putin’s deep antipathy toward the United States.

Impact: European military technology sharing with China will threaten US security

Kristin Archick. Richard F. Grimmett. Shirley Kan. 2005. (Archick is a specialist in European Affairs Foreign Affairs. Grimmett is a specialist in National Defense Foreign Affairs. Kan is a Specialist in National Security Policy Foreign Affairs. ) “European Union’s Arms Embargo on China: Implications and Options for U.S. Policy 15 APRIL 2005.”  <http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/45458.pdf>

In early 2005, Senator Richard Lugar warned that “the technology the U.S. shares with European allies could be in jeopardy if allies were sharing that through these commercial sales with the Chinese.” Senator Joseph Biden said that lifting the embargo is “a non-starter with Congress.” In the House, Representative Henry Hyde wrote that “the choice for Europe could not be clearer: it is between policies that promote the development of democracy in China or those that support China’s military buildup and threaten U.S. security interests.”

2. Fail to Uphold Human Rights. This links back to the Negative Philosophy

Link: U.S. sanctions were implemented because of China’s human rights abuses and are still justified today

Shirley A. Kan. Congressional Research Service. 2013. (Specialist in Asian Security Affairs ) (The Congressional Research Service (CRS), known as Congress's think tank, is a public policy research arm of the United States Congress) “U.S.-China Military Contacts: Issues for Congress” 25 JULY 2013. <http://fpc.state.gov/documents/organization/213000.pdf>

The U.S. ban on arms sales also shores up U.S. credibility and leadership, including opposition to an end to the European Union’s (EU’s) arms embargo against China similarly imposed for the Tiananmen Crackdown as well as in opposing Israel’s certain arms transfers to the PLA. In January 2004, the EU decided to reconsider whether to lift its embargo on arms sales to China. On January 28, 2004, a State Department spokesman acknowledged that the United States held “senior-level” discussions with France and other countries in the EU about the issue of whether to lift the embargo on arms sales to China. He said, “certainly for the United States, our statutes and regulations prohibit sales of defense items to China. We believe that others should maintain their current arms embargoes as well. We believe that the U.S. and European prohibitions on arms sales are complementary, were imposed for the same reasons, specifically serious human rights abuses, and that those reasons remain valid today.”

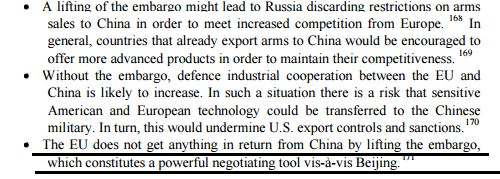
Link: EU arms embargo is a strong diplomatic tool in negotiations on China’s human rights, and shouldn’t be lifted until China improves

Vincent Metten. Written in 2011 and last updated in 2012. (EU policy director for the International Campaign for Tibet) (Euractiv is a European News Network.) “Should the EU lift the arms embargo on China?” 25 February 2011, last updated 14 Dec 2012. <http://www.euractiv.com/global-europe/eu-lift-arms-embargo-china-analysis-502529>

The EU Arms Embargo on China is directly linked to the human rights situation in the People's Republic of China (PRC) and it has been used as a strong diplomatic tool in negotiations with China. Its underpinning has changed over the years from a response to a specific horrific event to demonstrable progress on human rights across China. Although it was not endorsed within the EU Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), it has become de facto an effective EU policy on human rights. EU countries have refused to sell lethal arms to China for 21 years on the basis of the 1989 EU declaration, insofar as gross violations of human rights occur in the PRC. Thus, any debate on a possible lifting of the embargo is tantamount to establishing a specific policy on human rights and it would be perceived globally, including in China, in the context of human rights. We firmly believe that the European Union should resist calls to lift its arms embargo until the Chinese government completes an independent public investigation of the crackdown and holds accountable those government and military officials responsible for the use of lethal force against unarmed civilians.

Link: EU sanctions are a powerful negotiating tool with China

Jerker Hellström. The Swedish Defense Research Agency. 2010. (Hellström - head of the Asia programme for the Swedish Defense Research Agency, deputy director for the office of Strategic Analysis under Sweden’s Ministry for Foreign Affairs. The Swedish Defense Research Agency, also known as ForskningsInstitut or FOI in Swedish, is one of Europe’s leading research institutes in the areas of defense and security) “The EU arms embargo on China: a Swedish Perspective” JANUARY 2010. <http://www.foi.se/ReportFiles/foir_2946.pdf>



Link: China has big human rights oppression. Lifting the embargo removes a key motivator for China to improve

[Richard Weitz](http://thediplomat.com/authors/richard-weitz/) 2012. (director of the Center for Political-Military Analysis and a Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute.) THE DIPLOMAT (The Diplomat is a current-affairs magazine for the Asia-Pacific) “EU Should Keep China Arms Embargo” 12 APRIL 2012. <http://thediplomat.com/2012/04/eu-should-keep-china-arms-embargo/2/>

These are certainly strong arguments, but the case for not repealing the embargo, at least at present, is stronger. For starters, China-EU mutual trade and investment have flourished despite the embargo. Europe is the largest importer of Chinese goods and China’s second largest two-way trading partner. Opponents of lifting the arms embargo point to a lack of significant Chinese improvements regarding human rights during the past two decades. According to [Amnesty International](http://www.amnestyusa.org/our-work/countries/asia-and-the-pacific/china" \t "_blank), “an estimated 500,000 people are currently enduring punitive detention without charge or trial, harassment, surveillance, house arrest, and imprisonment of human rights defenders are on the rise, and censorship of the Internet and other media has grown. Repression of minority groups, including Tibetans, Uighurs and Mongolians, and of Falun Gong practitioners and Christians who practice their religion outside state-sanctioned churches continues.”  Lifting the embargo would remove one means of possibly inducing the current Chinese government to reexamine the Tiananmen crackdown and possibly change its policies.

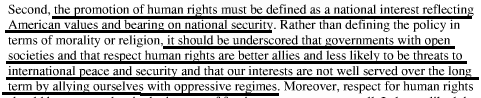
Brink: Removing the embargo could neutralize our support from the EU on disputed issues with China

[Richard Weitz](http://thediplomat.com/authors/richard-weitz/) 2012. (director of the Center for Political-Military Analysis and a Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute.) THE DIPLOMAT (The Diplomat is a current-affairs magazine for the Asia-Pacific) “EU Should Keep China Arms Embargo” 12 APRIL 2012. <http://thediplomat.com/2012/04/eu-should-keep-china-arms-embargo/3/>

The United States is also worried that strengthening economic and political ties between the EU and China would risk neutralizing the EU’s support for U.S. efforts to deter Chinese aggression and direct China’s rise in non-threatening ways. Increased dependence engendered by China-EU arms sales works both ways. EU governments could become more reluctant to challenge China on disputed issues for fear of Beijing’s curtailing its purchases of Western weapons. U.S. officials have sometimes encountered this problem in the past when Russia-EU ties are close.

Impact: Human rights promotion in US foreign policy is key to reducing national security threats and promoting peace

Roberta Cohen 2008. Roberta Cohen (MA with distinction from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies; specialist in human rights and humanitarian issues, is Senior Associate at the Institute for the Study of International Migration at Georgetown University ) Lecture at the Foreign Service Institute, 2008 INTEGRATING HUMAN RIGHTS IN US FOREIGN POLICY: THE HISTORY, THE CHALLENGES, AND THE CRITERIA FOR AN EFFECTIVE POLICY <http://issuu.com/georgetownsfs/docs/120731162020-b8844e15f9ea464f92fac4352d40eea3/10>



Impact: Protection of human rights is key to resolving many of today’s crises

Raziye Akkoc. The Telegraph. 2015. (foreign reporter for The Telegraph, a daily newspaper distributed in Britain) “How the world violates human rights, country by country” 02 FEBRUARY 2015. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/11381744/How-the-world-violates-human-rights-country-by-country.html>

The analysis of more than 90 countries is undertaken with human rights activists in the respective countries and this year, Kenneth Roth, HRW director, said human rights violations were fuelling the rise of groups like Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, Boko Haram and others. “Human rights violations played a major role in spawning or aggravating many of today’s crises,” Mr Roth said as the report was published on Friday. “Protecting human rights and ensuring democratic accountability are key to resolving them.”