

Manama, 11 March 2023,

Mr. President,
Dear Duarte,

I wish to address you regarding the revocation of Human Rights Watch visas by the Government of Bahrain. The Secretaries were informed by Ambassador Filip this morning that the IPU has discussed this most regrettable incident with the Bahraini authorities and that they will not revoke their decision.

We understand that two days before the start of the Assembly it was no longer possible to let this matter escalate completely, but simply taking note of the situation is not an option for the Twelve Plus. Human Rights Watch defends core IPU values on which we cannot compromise in any way.

Therefore, the Twelve Plus Group urges you to make an official statement clearly denouncing this course of events on behalf of the entire IPU.

We thank you in advance, Mr. President, dear Duarte, for doing so effectively.

Kind regards,



Andries Gryffroy
President of the 12 Plus Group