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Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Borrell  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(29.4.2021)

The promotion and protection of human rights are at the heart of the EU's foreign policy and the bilateral relations between the EU and Kuwait are no exception.

The European External Action Service (EEAS), notably through the EU Delegation in Kuwait, is actively monitoring the overall human rights situation in the country. In 2020, the EEAS launched a Human Rights dialogue with Kuwait aiming to contribute to improvement on main issues of concern, including the status of so-called Bidoons and freedom of expression both offline and online. Furthermore, the EEAS has engaged with Civil Society Organisations defending the rights of so-called Bidoons.

The second edition of the EU-Kuwait Human Rights dialogue, held on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021, provided another opportunity to reiterate the EU's principled position on human rights, exchange views on latest developments in this field and in particular ask for updates about actions undertaken by the authorities to improve the situation of the so-called Bidoons.