

**DECISION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
of 6 May 2016 on the Special Envoy for the promotion of freedom of religion or belief outside the EU**

THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

.....

Having regard to the European Parliament Resolution of 4 February 2016 on the systematic mass murder of religious minorities by the so-called 'ISIS/Daesh', and in particular Point 10 thereof, which calls for the EU to establish a permanent Special Representative for freedom of religion and belief,  
Considering the importance of promoting and protecting freedom of religion or belief outside the EU in the context of our dialogue and assistance programmes with third countries,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Sole article*

1. The function of the Special Envoy for the promotion of freedom of religion or belief outside the EU is created.
2. The Commission shall appoint the Special Envoy for the promotion of freedom of religion or belief outside the EU for a mandate of one year, which is renewable.
3. The Special Envoy for the promotion of freedom of religion or belief outside the EU shall be appointed as Special Adviser to the Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development.
4. The Special Envoy for the promotion of freedom of religion or belief outside the EU shall report on an annual basis in the context of the dialogue between the Commission and churches and religious associations or communities, led by the First Vice-President in charge of Better Regulation, Interinstitutional Relations, the Rule of Law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights.

*The President*

*Jean-Claude JUNCKER*