



EDWARD M^CMILLAN-SCOTT
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT VICE-PRESIDENT
Democracy and Human Rights
Yorkshire & Humber, UK
www.emcmillanscott.com

Dear colleagues,

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AS A PROMOTER OF PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY

Last week some of us met Ms Bothaina Kamel, the only female candidate for president of Egypt. Buthaina Kamel was arrested yesterday at 5 pm in Tahrir Square by Central Security Forces and released two hours later, amidst the turmoil and the loss of life and the many injuries on Tahrir over the past weekend. She told us "the army is killing the revolution". On 28 November Egypt starts the first round of parliamentary elections. There will be no EU observers. I fear that these elections will not be like the free and fair election on 23 October in Tunisia for a constituent assembly.

The European Parliament has been fully engaged in the Arab revolutions, led by President Jerzy Buzek, through its committees, delegations, personal activities and resolutions.

The EU is reviewing the way it supports democracy and human rights, whether through the €150 million European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights or possibly new mechanisms.

This email is to draw your attention [to a new video](#), featuring President Buzek's personal experience in Poland and others, which shows **how the European Parliament's Office for Promotion of Parliamentary Democracy is helping emerging democracies today**.

The DVD version was put in Members' pigeon holes in Strasbourg, together with the enclosed letter. Please contact this office or the OPPD if you would like a copy.

Yours,