

Barbara Lochbihler (Germany)

Date and place of birth: 20 May 1959 in Obergünzburg

United Nations working languages: English, French

Current position/function:

7/2009–6/2019 Member of the European Parliament (MEP):

Vice President of the Sub-Committee on Human Rights

Chair of the EU-UN Working Group, Foreign Affairs Committee

Foreign affairs and human rights spokesperson of The Green/EFA group

Member of the ASEAN and Maghreb delegations

Main professional activities:

The implementation of the EU's human rights strategy is the main focus of my work as MEP. This includes regular interaction with the OHCHR, Special Rapporteurs and other United Nations leaders as well as with regional institutions like the ECHR. I have been paying particular attention to meeting with NGOs and individual victims of human rights violations globally. Working continuously on flight and migration made me aware of the close and growing link between enforced disappearances (ED) and migration. The fight against impunity – and ED as a major criminal offence – has been a priority for me as MEP as well as Secretary General of Amnesty International Germany (1999–2009), where I worked on a wide range of human rights issues and the development of the overall policy of the international organization.

Legal expertise/experience and other main activities in the field of enforced disappearances:

Frequent human rights missions as MEP with focus on ED, incl. in relation to cases in Libya, Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Cambodia; Authoring of numerous human rights reports and resolutions on ED, including in Mexico, Laos, Sri Lanka; Convener of Int'l Law and Human Rights Program, Parliamentarians for Global Action; as SG of Amnesty International Germany intense advocacy work on negotiation process of ICED and its ratification by Germany.

Educational background:

M.A. in Political Sciences, International Law and Economics, Ludwig-Maximilian-University, Munich

Diploma in Social Work, Katholische Stiftungsfachhochschule, Munich

List of most recent publications, particularly in the field of enforced disappearances:

Quo vadis, ICC? – The European Union's Role and Responsibility to Support the ICC..., 2018 (ed. volume by Int'l Nuremberg Principles Academy); Eine Erklärung für die Menschheit – Rückblick und Perspektiven, ZVN, 6/2018; The Role and Responsibility of the EU Parliament in an External Human Rights Strategy (to be publ. 2019 in ed. collection of Università di Bologna); The EU-Turkey Statement and the Greek Hotspots, 2018 (editor).