



JO LEINEN

Member of the European Parliament

PRESS -RELEASE

EP/ arrest warrant al-Bashir

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Criminal against humanity must be brought before International Criminal Court

Tomorrow, the UN Security Council will decide on the continuation of the UN peace mission in Darfour, Sudan. "The United Nations must not be blackmailed by Omar al-Bashir", demands Jo **LEINEN**, member of the EU-UN working group in the European Parliament with regard to the intentions of some countries, to link the success of the Sudanese peace process to the non-issuing of an arrest warrant against Bashir.

Head of State Bashir did not participate in the peace talks in the past, while doing everything in his power to constrain the UN mission. "His arrest will have only positive impacts on the work of the UN in Darfour", explains **LEINEN**. Genocide and ethnic cleansing, as they were conducted by Bashir in his own country, must not go unpunished. **LEINEN** clarifies: "The arrest warrant against Bashir must be issued. The peace process in Dafour may not be taken hostage by criminals."

Already in the cases of Charles Taylor in Liberia and of the warlords in Uganda the issuing of arrest warrants by the International Criminal Court lead to the removal of the warmongers from peace talks and paved the way for agreements between the parties.

For further information contact Jo Leinen: + 49 177 7348764