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Please keep your fingers crossed, together with us, hoping that there will not be more populist parties and parties of the extreme right to enter the European Parliament. Those forces will not work towards détente and a new beginning in relations with Iran but seek to continue Iran's isolation.



It is not the European Parliament, or indeed any Parliament, which decides on these matters in the first place – not the Iranian Parliament either, by the way. Still, I hope that the next EP will see a solid alliance between Christian Democrats and Social Democrats to take matters further, and obviously, in this kind of configuration, Iran and its decision-makers could look at the EP as a reliable institution for confidence and trust building, as well as for the deepening of democratic interaction. In the past, we have done less than we could, but Iran must understand that there are certain practices which the EP will continue not to accept. A lot will depend on the Iranian course of action in the future. If we see more transparency in Iranian decision-making and a less rigid approach to what we call Human Rights – and we insist! – then a lot of doors will open.



The outcome of upcoming election is hard to predict, however I do not think that potential changes in component of European Parliament will imply a significant shift in policy toward Iran. European countries attitude is clear and coherent. We try to achieve improvement in bilateral relation with Iran and this goal is behind any political division within the chamber.

