

Human Rights Watch
9 December 2008

In this latest report, Human Rights Watch urgently calls for a European Union "bridging force" to assist UN peacekeepers plagued by lack of logistical support and capacity building. The report focuses on a recent episode of violence in which an estimated 150 people were killed in Kiwanja in North Kivu in the beginning of November. Despite Kiwanja being a priority protection zone, peacekeepers were unable to protect the civilians. HRWs featured letter to European Union heads of state on 9 December requested the deployment of EU forces to assist MONUC to reinforce bases in remote areas ensure better protection. Assistance by the EU could give the UN the assistance the help it so desperately needs to protect the people of Eastern Congo.

Other calls for action on **R2P**: See ongo's endless nightmare in the Star by Irwin Cotler, founder of the Save Darfur Parliamentary Coalition at <http://www.thestar.com/comment/article/554265>