

US backs Sweden in Belarus teddy bear spat

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Digital Journal said that a state department spokesman said last week the U.S. is “deeply concerned” about tensions between Sweden and Belarus over a free-speech teddy bear drop last month, and “stands with Sweden” in working for human rights in the former Soviet Republic.

Also the European Union will send a “very clear message” to Belarus over its diplomatic row with Sweden, a diplomat said.

“The United States stands with Sweden and our European partners in supporting the aspirations of the people of Belarus for a modern, democratic and prosperous future, said US State Department Patrick Ventrell, according to an article in The Local.