

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2180/09

by Charles Tannock (PPE-DE) and Jas Gawronski (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: The recent killings of human rights activists in Kenya

The Commission will have noted the recent murders of two human rights activists in Kenya. One of the victims, Oscar Kamau Kingara, had recently met the United Nations Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, Philip Alston. Mr Kingara's human rights foundation had also provided testimony to the Special Rapporteur regarding alleged killings by elements of the Kenyan police. What representations to the Kenyan authorities has the Commission made in this regard? What efforts will the Commission make to ensure the safety of the witnesses to the shootings and to press the Kenyan Government to investigate the killings and to bring the perpetrators to justice? Given the consequent threat to the safety of other people who met the Special Rapporteur during his visit to Kenya, what steps will the Commission take to press the Kenyan Government to take all necessary steps to ensure the safety of all people whom the Special Rapporteur met? In the Commission's view, to what extent do these killings represent a general deterioration in the human rights situation in Kenya?