

**Question for written answer E-006359/2014  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco (S&D)**

Subject: VP/HR - Humanitarian crisis in Iraq

Iraq has been the scene of an armed conflict since June, when Sunni insurgents headed by the Islamic State (ISIS) launched an offensive in the north of the country. Their aim is to drive all non-Sunni communities out of the areas under their control.

On 18 July, ISIS entered Mosul, forcing hundreds of Christian families to flee. On 2 August they did the same in Sinjar, triggering a mass exodus of Yazidis, who had been trapped there for days without food or water.

The United Nations Special Representative for Iraq has expressed alarm at the inhuman conditions being endured by the mainly Shiite and Turkmen population of Amirli, which has been under siege for two months.

Hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced, have nothing to eat or drink and cannot return to their homes. Urgent action needs to be taken in response to this major humanitarian crisis.

How does the VP/HR plan to respond comprehensively to the situation in Iraq and prevent the slaughter of civilians?

What has the VP/HR done to ensure that humanitarian aid reaches the communities besieged by ISIS and the areas in which those hundreds of thousands of displaced persons have taken refuge?