

**Question for written answer E-006363/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Elena Valenciano Martínez-Orozco (S&D)

Subject: Human rights in the EU-Vietnam Free Trade Agreement

In June 2014 the eighth round of bilateral negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the EU and Vietnam came to an end.

The International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) has recently reported a setback for freedom of expression in Vietnam, where, between 2013 and 2014, 79 bloggers and activists have been jailed. It has also condemned the forced eviction of hundreds of farmers from their lands, and the arrest of and assaults on demonstrators.

In a resolution of 17 April 2014, Parliament expressed its concern about this matter and in May 2014 the EU Council reiterated that investment and commercial activities in partner countries had to respect human rights.

In spite of that, the Commission has twice refused to draw up an assessment report on the specific impact the agreement will have on human rights.

Is the Commission aware of the above allegations?

How does it intend to follow up Parliament's resolution of 17 April 2014 and the conclusions of the EU Council of 19 May 2014 on human rights in the FTA between the EU and Vietnam?