

**Question for written answer E-006813/2014**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)**

Subject: VP/HR - The strangulation of civil society in Egypt

The latest news confirms that General Sisi's government has decided to approve a new law that severely restricts civil liberties and the activities of non-government organisations (NGOs). This law states, amongst other things, that all NGO operations and decisions (registration, funding, etc.) shall be subject to the veto of the Ministry of Justice and Social Solidarity, which will have the power to freeze the assets of any such organisations or close them down with no right of appeal.

1. Has the High Representative informed the Egyptian authorities of the concern that this new piece of legislation – which would represent a gross violation of the freedom of association – would raise within the EU if enacted?
2. Considering this restriction of civil liberties in Egyptian society, how would the enactment of this law affect EU negotiations with Egypt?