Question for written answer E-009418/2014 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130

Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)

Subject: VP/HR - Harassment of civilians in Morocco

On 6 November, the Ibn Rochd Centre, a Moroccan organisation headed by the renowned defender of human rights, Maâti Monjib, who works for press freedom, freedom of expression and the democratic and cultural development of the country, announced the cessation of its activities, owing to the control to which it has been subjected by the security forces of the Moroccan State.

The closure of the Ibn Rochd Centre is the latest case of harassment and obstruction carried out by the Moroccan authorities against civil organizations which defend human rights.

- 1. Is the High Representative aware of the increase in harassment and intimidation of civilians in Morocco by State security forces?
- 2. Has the High Representative sought explanations from the Moroccan Government on the increase in harassment and intimidation of civilians by State security forces?
- 3. What pressure can the European Commission bring to bear on the Moroccan authorities to guarantee that defenders of human rights and civil organisations in Morocco are allowed to carry out their legitimate activities?

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