

**Question for written answer E-000385/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Edouard Ferrand (NI)

Subject: Persecution of Christians

On 7 January 2015, the NGO Portes Ouvertes published a terrifying statistic – in 2014, more than 4 344 Christians were killed because of their faith. Michel Varton, head of Portes Ouvertes, said that 'Islamic extremism was the commonest driving force behind this persecution', adding that 'eight countries have experienced a rise in Islamic radicalisation: Nigeria, Iraq, Syria, the Central African Republic, Sudan, Pakistan, Egypt and Kenya'.

Some of these countries – Libya and Syria in particular – have been destabilised by the completely irresponsible policies pursued by certain EU Member States, which have encouraged the spread of radical Islam.

Considering the resources to which radical Islamists have access, and given the attacks on fundamental freedoms that are taking place worldwide, can the Commission provide information on the religious persecution of Christians around the world by proponents of radical Islamism? Does the Commission intend to urge some Member States to reconsider their Middle East policies in the light of that information?