

**Question for written answer E-001678/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Barbara Matera (PPE)

Subject: VP/HR - Death penalty in Indonesia

Shortly after midnight on 18 January 2015, five foreign nationals and one Indonesian were executed in Indonesia after having been sentenced to death.

A further 11 persons, including two Australian citizens, face the same fate.

The Indonesian Penal Code lays down the death penalty for a series of crimes, including murder, terrorism, crimes linked to arms and drugs smuggling and corruption, aggravated rape, treason and espionage.

Condemned persons are informed that they are to be executed only 72 hours in advance. They are hooded and placed in front of a 12-strong firing squad.

Executions were suspended in 2008, when the then Indonesian Government stated that it wished to reduce the number of death sentences handed down, but resumed in 2013, following a change of government.

1. Could the High Representative say what steps the EU has taken thus far to persuade the Indonesian Government of the need to abolish the death penalty?
2. What action does the High Representative plan to take in an effort to prevent the further executions which are now imminent?