

**Question for written answer E-002161/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - Killing of Shaimaa el-Sabagh

Egyptian activist Shaimaa el-Sabagh, a member of the Socialist Popular Alliance, was murdered by police in Cairo on 24 January 2015 while taking part in a demonstration against the repression perpetrated since the 2013 coup. She was hit by shotgun pellets fired from a distance of less than eight metres, causing irreparable damage to her heart and lungs. According to the vice-president of her party, Shaimaa el-Sabagh was murdered in cold blood.

The murder took place as police tried to stop Egyptian socialists placing a wreath in Cairo's Tahrir Square to commemorate those who died in the repression which accompanied the 2011 uprising for 'bread, freedom and social justice'.

In her declaration following the killing, the High Representative called on 'all parties to show restraint', and said that 'freedom of peaceful demonstration must be safeguarded'.

Can these declarations be interpreted as an attempt to equate the threat posed by Shaimaa el-Sabagh with the actions of the Egyptian authorities installed in the coup?