

**Question for written answer E-002749/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: VP/HR - Slavery in Mauritania

Although officially abolished in 1981, slavery remains a reality in Mauritania. According to the 'Global Slavery Index 2014', Mauritania is the country with the highest proportion of the population living in slavery (4% of the total population).

Activists engaged in the fight against slavery, such as Biram Dah Abeid, are abused and imprisoned.

Parliament recently adopted a resolution strongly condemning this situation.

Could the Commission state what action it has taken or intends to take to put pressure on the Mauritanian authorities to eliminate all forms of slavery and human trafficking and put an end to the imprisonment of and the violence inflicted on militant abolitionists?