

Question for written answer E-003190/2015
to the Council
Rule 130
Charles Tannock (ECR)

Subject: Supporting Tunisia's democratic transition

The Washington-based NGO Freedom House recently acknowledged the progress Tunisia has made since its 2011 revolution, in its annual Freedom in the World report. Tunisia was labelled as the first 'free' Arab country since 1975. While political freedom has flourished since the overthrow of Zine El Abidine Ben Ali in 2011, Tunisia still faces many challenges, particularly related to corruption and the rule of law. The country's economy is stagnant, and many average Tunisians have yet to feel the effects of their newfound freedoms. Tunisia is still struggling to deal with a legacy of political and economic power having been concentrated in the hands of an elite few. Serious legal reform still needs to be undertaken to remove legal codes from the era of the dictatorship. These challenges are still present in Tunisia, despite the wonderful progress it has made since 2011. With our help, Tunisia can continue to break through these barriers and expand the freedom of its citizens.

What steps does the Council plan on taking to aid the Tunisians in their democratic transition?