Question for written answer E-003599/2015 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Doru-Claudian Frunzulică (S&D)

Subject: VP/HR - Migrant workers' human rights violations on Saadiyat Island

In a report published earlier this month, Human Rights Watch claimed the existence of systemic human rights violations against migrant workers on Abu Dhabi's Saadiyat Island, a development project which will host branches of the Louvre and Guggenheim museums and New York University.

Apparently some employers continue to withhold wages and benefits from workers, fail to reimburse recruiting fees, confiscate workers' passports and house workers in substandard accommodation.

Are the rights of migrant workers a priority in the Union's development agenda?

What is the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy doing to encourage the Abu Dhabi authorities to lead a thorough and independent investigation into the violations and to enforce the new law?