

**Question for written answer E-008013/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: VP/HR - Transition to democracy in Tunisia

The day after the Jasmine Revolution, the European Union asserted itself as a credible partner and a fervent defender of the transition to democracy in Tunisia. The EU did not confine itself to supporting the organisation of elections in the country, but also made a commitment to promoting the development of a civil society and proper governance in the country.

Thus, as part of the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR)

for the period 2014-2020, the EU intends to provide aid for the development and consolidation of democracy and the rule of law, and for ensuring that human rights and fundamental freedoms are observed. The European Union has launched a Call for Proposals to provide direct support to organisations active in the promotion of democracy and human rights in Tunisia.

1. What does the Vice-President of the Commission/EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy think of the progress made by Tunisia as regards democracy, proper governance and the rule of law? What are, in her opinion, the main shortcomings?
2. What criteria does the Commission take into account when examining an application for funds from an organisation from Tunisian civil society?