

Question for written answer E-009600/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL) and Pablo Iglesias (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Violation of human rights in Saudi Arabia

The confirmation in a ruling by Saudi Arabia's Supreme Court on 8 June of the punishment of 1 000 lashes and 10 years in prison for the blogger Raif Badawi is an affront to human rights.

This physical punishment is unacceptable and contrary to human dignity. It thus represents one more breach of human rights in a country where these practices are lamentably frequent.

Does the Vice-President intend to condemn the attitude of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia?

Is the Vice-President considering revising the Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf?

How can respect for human rights be ensured in the multi-lateral relationship between the EU and the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf?