

Question for written answer E-009917/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)

Subject: VP/HR - Morocco expels two members of Amnesty International

Last week, the Moroccan authorities expelled two Amnesty International researchers, John Dalhuisen, Amnesty International's Director for Europe and Central Asia, and Irem Arf, Researcher on Refugee and Migrants' Rights in Europe, who were working on the ground to investigate the treatment of migrants and asylum seekers.

Following their detention, they were both interrogated for hours prior to their expulsion, which remained undocumented. This fresh incident confirms the feelings within Amnesty International that the organisation has been persecuted and obstructed by Morocco in recent months.

What is the opinion of the VP/HR Federica Mogherini regarding this fresh interference in the work carried out by Amnesty International in Morocco?

Will the High Representative question Moroccan civil servants in Brussels over this fresh expulsion of human rights activities from Morocco?

What consequences could this expulsion have for the bilateral relations between the Kingdom of Morocco and the European Union?