

Question for written answer E-010996/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)

Subject: VP/HR - Kidnapping and detention of Cipriano Nguema Mba

Cipriano Nguema Mba, a former lieutenant colonel in the armed forces of Equatorial Guinea, who obtained refugee status in Belgium in 2013, was kidnapped in December 2014 in Nigeria by the Equatorial Guinean security forces when he was visiting the West African country. Subsequently, this member of the opposition was taken to Equatorial Guinea by force, where he was brutally tortured in a detention centre. Nguema was then convicted of an alleged coup d'état and sentenced to 27 years in prison. His lawyers were unable to visit him or represent him during the trial. Another five people, who are allegedly associated with Nguema, were also tried by military tribunal and convicted of an alleged threat to national security. Some of these people have been released already, in application of an amnesty for political prisoners established by President Obiang; however, in contrast, there has been no news regarding Cipriano Nguema Mba and there are fears over what has become of him.

Will the VP/HR demand that the government of Equatorial Guinea release Cipriano Nguema Mba?

Will the VP/HR remind the government of Equatorial Guinea of its responsibilities in relation to human rights and the international agreements and conventions by virtue of which Cipriano Nguema Mba obtained refugee status in Belgium?