

**Question for written answer E-012743/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - European lawyer travelling to Western Sahara expelled from Morocco

On 7 September 2015, the Moroccan Government prevented Luis Mangrané Cuevas, a Spanish lawyer, from entering the non-self-governing territory of Western Sahara. He was already seated in the plane to Laayoune during a stopover in Casablanca when police officers informed him that he could not continue his journey as there was an expulsion order against him 'pursuant to Law No 02-03 on the entry and residence of foreigners in Morocco and on illegal emigration and immigration'. Mr Mangrané had visited Morocco and the occupied Saharawi territory previously as an envoy of the NGO 'Observatorio Aragonés para el Sáhara Occidental', and had attended the trials of Saharawi activists as an accredited observer for the General Council of Spanish Lawyers. It is obvious that he was expelled because of the well-known fact that he has criticised, peacefully, Morocco's repressive policy and arbitrary actions by the police and judicial system against members of the Saharawi opposition in particular. His expulsion is not only an infringement of the right to free movement and freedom of speech, but also demonstrates once more the Moroccan Government's disdain for international law, which does not recognise Morocco's presence in Western Sahara, not even as its administrative power.

Will the Vice-President/High Representative remind the Moroccan Government of its obligation to respect the right to free movement, particularly in a non-self-governing territory over which it has no sovereignty?

Will the Vice-President/High Representative file a complaint with the Moroccan Government concerning the outrageous way a European Union citizen has been treated?