Question for written answer E-000873/2016 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Bombing in Yemen

On 10 January 2016 several people were killed and many more were injured when a missile struck a medical facility run by the NGO Doctors Without Borders (MSF) in northern Yemen; the facility concerned, the Shiara hospital, is in Saada province, where MSF has been operating since November 2015.

MSF could not say who carried out the strike, but it has stated that all of the warring parties, including the US-backed Saudi-led military coalition, know the GPS coordinates of the medical facilities.

The coalition has already bombed Yemeni hospitals on two earlier occasions, and, in October 2015, a US army air strike on an MSF clinic in Afghanistan killed 20 people.

The EEAS has issued a statement by Ms Mogherini condemning these and similar attacks and calling for another round of UN-facilitated negotiations. Have the first steps been taken to bring this about?

In addition, what does the High Representative think about the fact that allies of the EU, namely Saudi Arabia and the United States, are violating international law by bombing hospitals and civilian areas?

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