

**Question for written answer E-002054/2016/rev.1  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

**Miguel Urbán Crespo (GUE/NGL), Patrick Le Hyaric (GUE/NGL), Josu Juaristi Abaunz (GUE/NGL), Ángela Vallina (GUE/NGL), Eleonora Forenza (GUE/NGL), Xabier Benito Ziluaga (GUE/NGL), Malin Björk (GUE/NGL), Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL) and Paloma López Bermejo (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: VP/HR - EU appeal against the European Court of Justice (ECJ) ruling on the EU-Morocco trade agreement

On 19 February 2016 the legal services of the Council of Ministers of the European Union lodged an appeal against the ECJ's decision to partly annul the EU-Morocco trade agreement signed in 2012. The ECJ claimed in its ruling that when signing the agreement the EU had not verified whether or not the exploitation of the natural resources of Western Sahara under Moroccan control was done for the benefit of the people of that territory, and urged the Council to check that there was no evidence of exploitation of the natural resources of Western Sahara under Moroccan control which was likely to be detrimental to the people of Western Sahara and to undermine their fundamental rights.

On what evidence were the statements made by VP/HR Federica Mogherini on 11 December 2015 (announcing an appeal against the ECJ ruling without proceeding to verify the origin of the resources marketed) based?