

**Question for written answer E-002974/2016
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Doru-Claudian Frunzuliță (S&D)

Subject: VP/HR - Crisis in Côte d'Ivoire

The 2010-2011 crisis in Côte d'Ivoire was the culmination of a decade-long cycle of political violence and impunity, which included election-related abuses in 2000 and a 2002-2003 armed conflict, during which perpetrators of human rights violations escaped prosecution for their crimes.

When President Ouattara took office in May 2011, he promised to bring the perpetrators of post-election abuses to justice. Will the VP/HR have talks with the government on the next step to be taken in order to end impunity for the perpetrators of crimes against humanity in Côte d'Ivoire, notably by strengthening the independence of the judiciary, protecting judges, lawyers, and witnesses involved in sensitive cases, supporting legal reforms that would respect the fair trial rights of defendants and making clear that presidential pardons are not available for those convicted of serious abuses?