

**Question for written answer E-005372/2016/rev.1**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Franz Obermayr (ENF)**

Subject: VP/HR - Saudi Arabia removed from 'list of shame'

According to media reports, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has been forced, by heavy pressure from Saudi Arabia, to remove the country from the 'list of shame'. This is the list of countries and organisations that recruit child soldiers or kill children. Saudi Arabia has succeeded in not having itself placed on the list alongside IS and other terrorist militias. It is sad but true that the UN is dependent on the financial support of Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia deliberately and flagrantly violates human rights<sup>1</sup>.

1. Has the Vice-President/High Representative raised the matter of human rights violations in her diplomatic contacts with the Government of Saudi Arabia?
2. If so, what initiatives have been taken by the Vice-President/High Representative?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/saudi-arabien-un-101.html>