

**Question for written answer E-006609/2016  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - Violation by Morocco of the ceasefire in Western Sahara

On 15 August 2016, the Polisario Front notified the United Nations that Morocco had made an incursion into Guerguerat, thereby violating Article 1 of the Western Sahara ceasefire agreement, which states that 'no military presence shall be authorised' in that territory. It also called for work to be halted on the illegal construction by Morocco of a road in the region, and for the setting-up of a United Nations monitoring centre there.

On 28 August 2016, the United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, urged both parties to withdraw all armed elements and respect the status quo, in order to facilitate talks sponsored by the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO).

These developments have shown it to be impossible for MINURSO and the Security Council not only to ensure compliance with the referendum on self-determination, but also to enforce the ceasefire.

Since any indecisiveness on the part of the international community in this matter would allow Morocco to continue its acts of aggression against the Sahrawi people, can the Commission indicate:

1. What action the EU plans to take to support MINURSO's work in this region and to smooth the way to a referendum?
2. What the EU's stance is on the repeated human rights and ceasefire violations committed by Morocco?