

**Question for written answer E-006860/2016  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Francisco Assis (S&D)**

Subject: VP/HR - Death of an Angolan boy during a peaceful protest

On 5 August 2016, whilst soldiers of the Angolan Armed Forces coordinated mass demolition works in the neighbourhood of Walale on the outskirts of Luanda, a 14-year-old boy, Rufino António, was shot dead during a peaceful protest. The fact that the military police was dispatched to this demonstration raises serious concerns over the unnecessary use of lethal force.

According to accounts reported in the media and by human rights organisations, the soldiers, who were greeted by a group of residents holding a peaceful protest against the demolition works, fired real bullets into the air and at the feet of the protestors without warning.

Angolan legislation is clear on where the threshold lies for using lethal force, stating that it may only be used as a last resort in combatting a threat to life or to avoid serious bodily harm. Unfortunately, as well as the case of Rufino, the Human Rights Watch and other groups have reported several other cases in which security forces have unjustifiably killed or injured protestors.

What measures will the EU adopt to fight to have freedom of expression and freedom of assembly fully upheld in Angola and to put pressure on the Angolan authorities to quickly and impartially investigate this boy's death by shooting?