

**Question for written answer E-008194/2016  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Doru-Claudian Frunzuliță (S&D)**

Subject: VP/HR - Vietnam

Vietnam's National Assembly is considering revising the country's penal code, at its session scheduled for 20 October to 22 November 2016. The laws concerned were used in the arrest in October of prominent blogger Nguyen Ngoc Nhu Quynh, known as 'Mother Mushroom'.

It seems that Vietnam's laws are vaguely defined and are often used arbitrarily against critics, activists, and bloggers.

Will the VP/HR send a message of support to the Vietnamese National Assembly to encourage it to seize this opportunity to repeal provisions that have led to large numbers of political prisoners, thus bringing Vietnam's laws into line with international standards?