

Question for written answer E-000329/2017
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Alex Mayer (S&D)

Subject: VP/HR - Academic freedom in the world one year after the murder of Giulio Regeni

One year on from the tragic murder of Giulio Regeni, there has been little progress in bringing the perpetrators to justice. Meanwhile, academic freedom across the world continues to face challenges.

Academics from Syria, Egypt, Iraq and - above all following the unsuccessful coup attempt - Turkey have been forced to flee their countries. They also face obstacles to their work in the form of travel bans and security restrictions. The case of Giulio Regeni shows that European academics can also face severe risks when conducting research abroad.

1. What action is the EEAS taking to ensure that academic freedom is respected in the world?
2. Does the VP/HR discuss academic freedom when meeting authorities from the above-mentioned countries?