

**Question for written answer E-002150/2017
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică (S&D)**

Subject: VP/HR - Protection of human rights in Thailand

Chaiyaphum Pa-sae, aged 17, was shot to death on 17 March 2017 after soldiers apprehended him for alleged drug possession in the Chiang Dao district of Thailand's northern Chiang Mai province.

The soldiers said that Chaiyaphum escaped from them, pulled a knife out of the boot of the car, fought his way past them, and ran into the nearby jungle. They claimed that they pursued him and, when Chaiyaphum was about to throw a hand grenade at them, shot him in self-defence. They have not explained how a detained person obtained the knife or grenade. The coroner confirmed that Chaiyaphum was killed by an M16 assault rifle round that pierced his left arm and struck his heart.

The Thai Government has an obligation under the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders to ensure that any individual or group working to protect and promote human rights is able to work in a safe and enabling environment.

Will the VP/HR encourage the Thai authorities to conduct a thorough and impartial investigation into this case and make their findings public?