

**Question for written answer E-002760/2017/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Florent Marcellesi (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Situation regarding minority languages in Spain

A number of reports have recently come to light all over the media stating that the Spanish National Police reported a citizen from Benidorm for addressing them in Valencian. This is not an isolated case, and both the National Police and the Civil Guard have reported and fined Valencian citizens for addressing the country's law enforcement forces in Valencian. Valencian is recognised as an official language in Spain and, as such, the National Police and the Civil Guard are violating the fundamental rights of people to express themselves in their own language. The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, signed in 1992, defends the rights of European citizens who speak minority languages. The actions taken by the Spanish National Police constitute a clear violation of the Charter.

In light of the above:

1. What is the Commission's position on the repeated violations of the rights of Valencian-language speakers in Spain?