

**Question for written answer E-004030/2017
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Barbara Matera (PPE)

Subject: VP/HR - China's plan to eliminate human rights experts

China is trying to eliminate the positions of 19 human rights experts in the Central African Republic. If it succeeds, the United Nations will be completely unable to monitor human rights violations in the country, including violence against women and children. China and the Central African Republic share strong diplomatic ties, and China has delivered over USD 150 million in development aid to the Central African Republic. In addition, China has also pushed for the defunding of the UN mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where two UN experts investigating human rights atrocities were killed.

1. Can the EU begin a series of human rights negotiations with the Central African Republic?
2. What measures can the EU promote to further protect UN field employees?