

**Question for written answer E-004690/2017  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Francisco Assis (S&D)**

Subject: VP/HR - 30 years imprisonment for a Salvadorean girl following a spontaneous abortion

In April 2016, 19-year-old Evelyn Beatriz Hernandez Cruz gave birth to a stillborn baby in El Salvador. On 5 July 2017, she was sentenced to 30 years in prison for aggravated homicide.

According to Amnesty International, the Salvadorean teenager was admitted to hospital after losing consciousness at home. Evelyn went into labour, unaware that she was even pregnant. She had fallen pregnant after being raped, an incident which she did not report to the authorities because she feared reprisals. Evelyn was detained while she was still in hospital and was recently sentenced, with the authorities arguing that she was guilty because she had not sought pre-natal healthcare.

In El Salvador, abortion is a crime, including in cases of spontaneous abortion, rape, incest, danger to life and serious and fatal foetal impairment. Evelyn's case is the latest following the sentencing of 17 women, three of whom have since been released.

In light of this fresh, abhorrent conviction, and taking into account the possibility that El Salvador's National Assembly could grant a reprieve, as it has recently done in similar cases:

What action does the EU intend to take in order to fight for Evelyn Beatriz Hernandez Cruz's release?