

**Question for written answer E-006062/2017  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Alex Mayer (S&D)**

Subject: Human rights and trade union rights in Somalia

The situation regarding human rights and trade union rights in Somalia is worsening as free and independent trade unions are facing systematic attacks on the fundamental rights of freedom of association, freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of expression and are frequently being stigmatised for being vocally critical of the Ministries of Information and Labour over abuses of power.

Is the Commission aware of the decisions of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Case No 3113 (Somalia) regarding violations of freedom of association, as unanimously adopted at the 328th session of the ILO Governing Body, at which the Somali government lost a case brought against it by trade unions, namely the Federation of Somali Trade Unions (FESTU) and the National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ)?

If so, can the Commission state what the EU is doing to firmly encourage Somalia to fully comply with its international human rights obligations under the International Labour Standards, including ILO core conventions ratified by Somalia, and to respect the decisions of the ILO supervisory mechanism which find the government guilty of grave violations of freedom of association, attacks on journalists and union activists, and victimisation of members of FESTU and NUSOJ?