

**Question for written answer E-007131/2017
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

Hilde Vautmans (ALDE)

Subject: VP/HR - The situation of Syrian refugees in Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon

Although Syria's neighbouring countries have been quite generous by hosting millions of people on the run from war and terror, the situation of Syrian refugees in these countries is often poignant. In Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon, their rights are being violated not only by individuals, but also by the local governments, towns and the state.

Crimes committed against Syrians include forced and unpaid labour, violence against women and children, the expulsion of families from their homes and even torture and murder. For example, in early July 2017 the Lebanese army attacked refugee camps in Irsal. Seven Syrians were killed and dozens of others have been tortured. Furthermore, the Lebanese President has recently requested preparing for the return of Syrians to their country while the war is still ongoing.

These crimes and actions are unacceptable. The basic rights of Syrian refugees have to be respected.

1. How will the VP/HR address the Governments of Turkey, Jordan and Lebanon about these crimes?
2. Which measures will the VP/HR take to defend the rights of Syrian refugees?