

**Question for written answer E-000174/2018  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: VP/HR - Court of Justice of the European Union opinion on the EU-Morocco Fisheries Partnership Agreement

On 10 January 2018, the Court of Justice of the European Union's Advocate-General, Melchior Wathelet, published the Court's conclusions on the 2006 EU-Morocco Fisheries Partnership Agreement. According to the opinion, the agreement is invalid where it applies to the occupied territories of Western Sahara and their adjacent waters. That opinion has emerged a year after the Court declared that the EU-Morocco Association Agreement could not be applied to Western Sahara.

The conclusions make it clear that the agreement conflicts with the right of the Sahrawi people to self-determination, granted by the United Nations, which takes the view that Western Sahara has been illegally occupied since 1975. The opinion also states that the EU has failed on its obligation not to recognise an illegal situation, in this case the military occupation of the territory.

What view does the High Representative take of that opinion and what consequences will it have for the EU-Morocco Fisheries Partnership Agreement? Will she make contact with the Polisario Front, the only legitimate and internationally recognised representatives of the Sahrawi people, with a view to compensating it for those illegal activities?