

**Question for written answer E-003152/2018**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: VP/HR - Situation in Yemen and arms sales to Saudi Arabia

Since 2015, the Saudi Arabian Government has led a coalition against the Houthi ethnic group in Yemen with a military force of 150 000 troops and 100 aircraft. According to UN estimates, as of January 2018, the coalition attacks had left more than 12 000 dead and 50 000 wounded, destroyed infrastructure, and caused famine and cholera epidemics. More than 22 million people are now reliant on humanitarian aid to meet their basic needs.

EU Common Position 2008/944/CFSP on arms sales lays down eight criteria for arms sales.

According to the European Parliament (2017/2029(INI)), arms exports by Member States breach – at least – criterion 2 of the Common Position regarding ‘the [purchasing] country’s involvement in grave breaches of humanitarian law’.

Parliament has repeatedly called for an arms embargo on Saudi Arabia.

Spain recently agreed the sale of EUR 2 billion worth of military equipment to Saudi Arabia.

Has VP/HR Mogherini taken any action to prevent Spain selling arms to Saudi Arabia?

What is the EU’s strategy to promote peace in Yemen?