

Question for written answer P-000055/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Philippe Juvin (PPE)

Subject: VP/HR - Attacks on Egyptian Christians in Libya

The number of Christians murdered and attacks on churches have increased in Libya over recent months. According to a source close to the Libyan Government, thirteen Coptic Christians were abducted in Sirte on Saturday, 3 January 2015, following seven abductions a few days previously. That source attributed the abductions to the Islamic militia group Ansar al-Sharia, which the UN classes as a terrorist organisation. The circumstances in which these twenty persons were abducted are still shrouded in mystery. Also, on 13 December 2014, an Egyptian doctor and his wife, both Copts, were murdered in Sirte. Two days later, their 13-year-old daughter, who had also been abducted, was found dead. In late February/early March 2014, a number of Egyptian Christians were also reported to have been murdered.

1. Does the Vice-President of the Commission and High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy have more accurate information about the circumstances in which the twenty Egyptian Copts were abducted?
2. How does the Vice-President and High Representative intend to address the particular needs of the Christian minority affected by the conflict in Libya and the crimes attributed to Islamic militia groups?