

Question for written answer P-004343/2016/rev.1
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Franz Obermayr (ENF)

Subject: VP/HR - British bombs found in villages in Yemen

The European Information Centre on Terrorism recently reported that, when inspecting a village in northern Yemen, Amnesty International had found an unexploded cluster bomb. This munition was produced by the British company Bedfordshire in the 1970s. Amnesty International accuses the Saudi-led coalition forces of using these banned arms regularly and systematically. Moreover, the BL 755 bomb is said to have been dropped by British-produced Tornados, which are used by the Saudi Air Force. Tornados were also designed for this type of bomb. Amnesty International is calling on Britain to take stronger action against such suspected war crimes and to seek to halt the use of these bombs, which were sold to Saudi Arabia in large numbers in the 1980s and 1990s.

1. Has the VP/HR investigated this and/or similar incidents?
2. Will the VP/HR take action to investigate such incidents automatically in future, and/or what other measures are planned?