

Question for written answer P-008601/2016
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Ilhan Kyuchyuk (ALDE)

Subject: VP/HR - Use of toxic chemicals by ISIS in Mosul

For one reason or another, the Mosul operation is the beginning of the end of ISIS in Iraq. Unfortunately, while fleeing the surrounded city ISIS fighters have been repeatedly attacking and endangering civilians in Mosul and sub-districts around the city. Speaking to reporters in Geneva, Ravina Shamdasani, the UN's human rights spokeswoman, said that recent reports indicate that ISIS has stockpiled large quantities of ammonia and sulphur in some of the most populous areas of Mosul. There are growing fears that the ISIS forces may use ammonia and sulphur as chemical weapons as they prepare for the final push of the Iraqi forces who are trying to liberate the city from them.

1. Does the VP/HR know about ISIS having plans to use chemical weapons to defend Mosul?
2. If so, what measures will the VP/HR take to prevent the use of toxic chemicals as a means of warfare in Mosul and to protect civilians who are caught in the crossfire there?