Question for written answer P-005516/2017 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Johannes Cornelis van Baalen (ALDE)

Subject: VP/HR - Illegal arrest of Kem Sokha - CNRP Cambodia

- Is the VP/HR aware of the illegal arrest of the leader of the CNRP opposition party in Cambodia, Kem Sokha, who, in spite of his parliamentary immunity, which should have protected him against such an arrest, has been detained in the notorious CC3 prison near the Vietnamese border?
- Does the VP/HR agree that this arrest is unacceptable and that the absurd charges (treachery and collusion with foreign countries) against him represent a further deterioration of the political climate for opposition forces in Cambodia in the run up to the 2018 elections?
- What action will the VP/HR take to have Kem Sokha released? Is the VP/HR prepared to consider the suspension of EU financial support for Cambodia, given the deteriorating political situation?

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