

Question for written answer P-006734/2017
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Alex Mayer (S&D)

Subject: VP/HR - Persecution of BBC Persian journalists in Iran

The Iranian authorities have initiated a criminal investigation into 152 BBC Persian staff, former staff and contributors for 'conspiracy against national security' in Iran and abroad. In addition, a court order freezing the assets of BBC Persian staff has been issued. This is a deprivation of human rights, which is against the Iranian constitution and as such represents a gross infringement of media freedom.

In the light of the above developments, what is the VP/HR doing to protect journalists across the world, prevent their persecution and defend media freedom?