

**Question for written answer P-000744/2019
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

Miguel Urbán Crespo (GUE/NGL), Xabier Benito Ziluaga (GUE/NGL), Estefanía Torres Martínez (GUE/NGL), Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL) and Tania González Peñas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Sahrawi activist imprisoned

On 11 January 2019, Hussein Bashir Brahim, a Sahrawi activist, arrived in Lanzarote on a small boat, having fled persecution by the regime in Morocco. He was detained by the Spanish police. The requirement that he be given a court hearing was not met, and his asylum application was not processed. On 17 January, he was deported to Morocco and handed over to the police. On 21 January he was imprisoned in Marrakesh, accused of 'illegal political activities'. This confirms that he is indeed being persecuted for political reasons.

Under Article 4 of the Schengen Borders Code, Member States are required to act in full compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and with international law, including the (Geneva) Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the principle of non-refoulement.

1. Is the High Representative intending to call for the release of Hussein Bashir Brahim, and all Sahrawi political prisoners?
2. Is she going to insist that the Spanish Government comply in full with the rules on protection and asylum for persons who are persecuted for political reasons?
3. In the light of these human rights violations, is she considering suspending the EU migration funding earmarked for Morocco?