

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3843/02
by Giuseppe Di Lello Finuoli (GUE/NGL)
to the Council

Subject: Expulsion from Italy of the Al-Shari family

The Italian police have handed over to the Syrian police the engineer Muhammad Al-Shari (who was sentenced to death some years ago in Syria on the grounds of being a member of the Muslim Brotherhood), together with his wife and four children, after holding them in detention for five days at Malpensa airport (Milan), during which time they were not allowed contact with third persons, in circumstances amounting to a deliberate breach of the international conventions on asylum and the much-lauded Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. The Al-Shari family had arrived from Iraq, and at the very least they should have been 'sent back' to that country. Instead, they were handed back to the Syrian dictatorship.

The author of this question hereby declares his intention to take this case to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, and meanwhile asks the Council what steps it will take to ascertain whether the death sentence decreed against Muhammad Al-Shari in Syria has been carried out or not, to state what action it will take with a view to safeguarding the physical integrity of the Al-Shari family, and to call on the Italian government to abide by its international commitments.