

**Question for written answer E-5624/2010  
to the Council  
Rule 117  
Emilio Menéndez del Valle (S&D)**

Subject: Spectre of deadly violence in Kenya

In August 2010 Kenya will hold a referendum on a new constitution.

The Kenyan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy has warned that an arms race is under way between the two ethnic communities that clashed violently during the 2007 elections, leading to much bloodshed which I witnessed at first hand.

The kikuyu and kalenjin tribes are building up armouries of weapons while the government stands idly by, and according to credible sources, even lends it support.

Almost 1 500 people were killed and 300 000 were uprooted in the massacres of 2007-2008 that were the fruit of hatred and vendettas born of decades of discrimination and denial of power and resources on ethnic grounds in Kenya.

In May, the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Luis Moreno Ocampo, travelled to Kenya to examine whether the violence triggered by the elections can be classed as a crime against humanity. It would appear that Mr Moreno Ocampo has drawn up a list of ringleaders, including several ministers, that are believed to be responsible for fanning the flames of violence.

Could the Council come up with an initiative to help avoid a repeat of the 2007-2008 violence during the referendum this August?