

**Question for written answer E-010915/2011  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

**Ramon Tremosa i Balcells (ALDE), Edward McMillan-Scott (ALDE), Kristiina Ojuland (ALDE)  
and Thomas Mann (PPE)**

Subject: VP/HR - Complementary written question to the High Representative Lady Ashton regarding written answer P-009291/2011 about self-immolation by young Tibetan monks

While thanking the High Representative Lady Ashton for answering P-009291/2011 about self-immolation by young Tibetan monks, we still have few doubts in this regard. We would like to seek her help to answer fully those questions and address our concerns in order to have a comprehensive picture of the EU's position towards the current situation in China's Tibetan areas.

In particular:

Question 2: Has this use of self-immolation been discussed at the level of the COHOM and COASI?

Question 3: Has a position been taken or a reaction been given by the Commission and the European External Action Service?

Question 4: Is it the Vice-President/High Representative's intention to release a public statement of concern over the lack of respect for human rights in Tibet, which is leading to these extreme acts and desperate forms of protest?

Question 5: Will the EU raise this issue with China during the next EU-China summit and EU-China human rights dialogue?

With regard to Question 3, the fact that Lady Ashton 'took the opportunity to repeat the EU's consistent position on human rights' in her two days of talks in Beijing with the Chinese leadership on 24 and 25 October 2011 does not explain whether a common position was taken by the Commission and the European External Action Service on the self-immolation by Tibetan monks and nuns, nor did she reflect on and inform us of possible actions by the EU mission on the ground.

Regarding Question 4, the High Representative did not say whether she intends to release a public statement of concern over the lack of respect for human rights in Tibet.

Finally, while it was reiterated that the EU discussed the self-immolation of Phuntsog Jarutsang and the punishment of other monks at Kirti monastery at the last EU-China human rights dialogue on 16 June 2011, it is not clear whether the European Union intends to raise this issue during the next EU-China Summit, thereby duly taking into account the 27 October 2011 EP resolution on this important issue.