

**Question for written answer E-011091/2013  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 117  
**Jill Evans (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: VP/HR - Treatment of migrant workers in Qatar

When it was announced that Qatar had won the bid to host the 2022 football World Cup, the news met with much controversy. Many were angry that a country in which homosexuality between men is illegal and freedom of expression is restricted had been picked to host the prestigious competition. There were also many questions over the rights of the workers who were to work on the ambitious project of constructing a city from scratch.

FIFA had stated that it would ensure that the workers' rights were protected. Nevertheless, this summer migrant workers from Nepal working on constructing the city were dying at the rate of one per day, totalling 44 deaths between 4 June and 8 August 2013. The workers are forced to live in appalling conditions in labour camps and often go months without being paid; in effect, they have become slaves to their employers.

It is estimated that by the time the World Cup kicks off, 4 000 workers will have died.

1. Does the Vice-President / High Representative condemn the treatment of these migrant workers?
2. What steps will the Vice-President / High Representative take in order to address the human rights abuses in Qatar?
3. Will the Vice-President / High Representative hold talks with Qatar in order to try and resolve the situation?
4. Will the Vice-President / High Representative hold talks with FIFA in order to try and resolve the situation?