

Question for written answer E-003102/2014
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 117
Michał Tomasz Kamiński (ECR)

Subject: VP/HR - Death penalty in Belarus

Belarus is the only country in Europe today which has not abandoned the death penalty. Not even its suspension from the Council of Europe in 1998 persuaded the country to change its stance on this issue. According to various statistics, since 1990 at least 300 executions have been carried out in Belarus. And there is good reason to suspect that not all of those involved received a fair trial. Furthermore, the executions are carried out in extremely inhumane conditions – the condemned are killed with a single shot to the back of the head; their family are only informed that the execution has been carried out and no information is given about the place of burial.

How can the EU bring pressure to bear on Belarus to convince its Government to abandon the death penalty?