

**Question for written answer E-003107/2014**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 117  
**Michał Tomasz Kamiński (ECR)**

Subject: VP/HR - Russia: the case of Mikhail Kosenko

On 6 May 2012, the day before Vladimir Putin was sworn in as President of Russia, 450 opposition activists were detained following a demonstration on Moscow's Bolotnaya Square. One of the activists, Mikhail Kosenko, was sentenced to undergo forced psychiatric treatment. There are serious indications that the sentence was inappropriate. As Kosenko's lawyer argues, there is no reliable evidence to show that he carried out the crimes of which he is accused. Kosenko, a schizophrenic, denies having participated in an attack on police officers – a claim which was corroborated in court by one of the officers who was beaten up in the attack. Human rights defenders are alarmed that Mikhail Kosenko, in spite of the clear absence of evidence against him, was held on remand for 14 months until sentencing and was denied contact with his family. Additionally, he was not allowed to attend his mother's funeral. Kosenko's sister, who was acting as his representative in court, was not permitted to establish a line of defence with him.

What position does the High Representative take on this case in which the basic human rights of a Russian citizen have been clearly violated? What position does the EU take on the violation of basic rights and freedoms in our partner countries?