Question for written answer E-005338/2014 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 117 Claude Moraes (S&D)

Subject: VP/HR - Sri Lanka

On Thursday, 27 March 2014, the UN Human Rights Council adopted its latest resolution on Sri Lanka. This provides a mandate to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to investigate the alleged serious violations and abuses of human rights and related crimes by both parties in Sri Lanka in the final years of the country's armed conflict. Additionally, in recent weeks, there has been a crackdown on Tamils and human rights defenders in Sri Lanka. Prominent human rights defenders were arrested and detained in the north of the country whilst the 25th session of the UN Human Rights Council was taking place.

Accordingly:

- 1. What steps is the Vice-President / High Representative taking, or what steps will she take, to support the investigation by the OHCHR?
- 2. What consideration has the Vice-President / High Representative given to the fact that the Government of Sri Lanka has already confirmed that it will not cooperate with the inquiry?
- 3. What steps is the Vice-President / High Representative taking to ensure that the Government of Sri Lanka complies with its international obligations?
- 4. What recent assessment has the Vice-President / High Representative made of the human rights situation in Sri Lanka, particularly in the former conflict areas in the north?
- 5. What action is the Vice-President / High Representative taking to ensure that the Government of Sri Lanka works towards ensuring that a lasting political solution is secured?

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