Question for written answer E-005573/2016 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Tunne Kelam (PPE)

Subject: VP/HR - Organ Harvesting in China

According to a report published by CNN, China is still engaged in the widespread and systematic harvesting of organs from prisoners. The report estimates that 60 000 to 100 000 organs are transplanted each year in Chinese hospitals. The vast majority of these organs come from executed prisoners, many of whom are prisoners of conscience locked up for their religious or political beliefs. The report's findings stand in stark contrast to Beijing's claim that, since the beginning of 2015, China has moved from being almost completely reliant on prisoners' organs to becoming the 'largest voluntary organ donation system in Asia'.

Is the EU aware of the practice of organ harvesting systematically performed by the Chinese authorities and public hospitals?

Will the EU request official figures from the Chinese authorities on the number of executed prisoners and prisoners whose organs have been harvested?

Do the issue of organ harvesting and the protection of fundamental rights supersede EU-China relations?