

**Question for written answer E-000789/2017
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - Recent executions in Bahrain

On 15 January 2017, the Bahraini authorities executed Sami Mushaima, Ali al-Singace and Abbas al-Samea. They were accused, along with seven other Bahrainis, of orchestrating an attack, which killed three police officers on 3 March 2014, one of whom was an Emirian citizen.

However, there are serious concerns about the fairness of their trial, with reports pointing out the lack of credible forensic evidence to support the court's decision and alleging that the sentence was based on forced confessions obtained under severe torture.

In addition, the execution provoked a series of protests across Bahrain, which, in addition to the long-standing grievances resulting from the general crackdown on every form of dissent pursued by the Bahraini authorities since May 2016, might have serious consequences for the region.

What concrete action does the European External Action Service (EEAS) intend to take against this blatant violation of fundamental rights, such as the right to a fair trial?

Does the EU intend to employ any of the mechanisms at its disposal to ensure respect for fundamental human rights in its partner countries and to prevent similar events from happening in the future?

Does the EU continue to believe that the Bahraini authorities are committed to advancing the state of human rights in the country and implementing the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry's 2011 recommendations?