

**Question for written answer E-000816/2017/rev.2
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

Florent Marcellesi (Verts/ALE), Barbara Lochbihler (Verts/ALE), Bodil Valero (Verts/ALE), Max Andersson (Verts/ALE), Klaus Buchner (Verts/ALE), Fabio Massimo Castaldo (EFDD), Olle Ludvigsson (S&D), Jytte Guteland (S&D), Paloma López Bermejo (GUE/NGL), Ángela Vallina (GUE/NGL), João Ferreira (GUE/NGL), João Pimenta Lopes (GUE/NGL), Takis Hadjigeorgiou (GUE/NGL), Rina Ronja Kari (GUE/NGL), Stelios Kouloglou (GUE/NGL), Kostadinka Kuneva (GUE/NGL), Patrick Le Hyaric (GUE/NGL) and Javier Nart (ALDE)

Subject: VP/HR - European companies investing in Western Sahara

The Court of Justice ruled in case C-104/16 P – *Council v Front Polisario* that Western Sahara is not part of the sovereign territory of Morocco and that, following the principles of self-determination and of the relative effect of treaties, the EU-Morocco Association and Liberalisation Agreements could not apply to Western Sahara without the consent of the people of Western Sahara.

Does the VP/HR agree with the fact that Morocco has no sovereignty over the territory of Western Sahara, and that henceforth Moroccan domestic laws do not apply to Western Sahara?

What is the VP/HR's view on European companies, such as Siemens, signing public contracts with the Moroccan authorities under Moroccan law and investing in projects illicitly located in the territory of Western Sahara?

Do the VP/HR and the Member States plan to issue advisory guidelines for businesses warning of the legal and reputational risks of investing in Western Sahara?

[Question supported by Members other than the author(s)¹]

¹ Question supported by Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL).