

**Question for written answer E-004852/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Ilhan Kyuchyuk (ALDE)**

Subject: VP/HR - Violent campaign against the freedom of religion in China

China is currently engaged in an extensive war against Christianity. The recent crackdown on Christians is the worst since the Cultural Revolution. Chinese authorities, from Beijing to Tibet, are leading a violent campaign against the freedom of religion in the country, which unfortunately includes the burning of Bibles and crosses, the forced closure or demolition of major churches as well as forcing Christian believers to sign papers renouncing their faith. It is important to point out that the anti-religion campaign has not only affected Christian believers in the vast country. Around one million Uighurs and other members of Muslim minority groups in the country's north-west have been detained in indoctrination camps where they are forced to denounce Islam and profess loyalty to the Communist Party. In general, the suppression of religious freedoms and human rights has become part of an official campaign to 'Sinicise' religion by demanding loyalty to the atheist Communist Party and removing any potential challenge to the party's power in the country.

What steps will the VP/HR take to stop the Chinese authorities and their violent crackdown on the freedom of religion and human rights?

What steps will the VP/HR take to protect the rights and freedoms of minorities in China?