

**Question for written answer E-005408/2018/rev.1**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Paloma López Bermejo (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: VP/HR - Solitary confinement of four Saharawi political prisoners from Gdeim Izik

Sidi Abdallah Abbahah, Mohamed Bourial, Mohamed Lamin Haddi and El Bachir Khadda are Saharawi political prisoners belonging to Gdeim Izik who were sentenced to prison in 2013. Their sentences range from between 20 years to life imprisonment. They have been moved between various Moroccan prisons and are now located at Tiflet<sup>2</sup> where they are being tortured by the Moroccan authorities and subjected to continued periods of isolation of between 22 and 23 hours a day.

During these hours they have no human contact and are deprived of other sensory stimuli. Some of these prisoners have been confined in total isolation without books, radio or television since 16 September 2017. During the time they spend outside (one or two hours), the four Saharawis are insulted and threatened by others including the prison guards.

- 1) Does the Vice-President / High Representative know that Morocco is using these practices and infringing upon the most basic of human rights?
- 2) The United Nations Committee Against Torture has denounced cases of torture and violations of international law. Is there a relevant reason to exempt Morocco from the European Union's condemnation of these practices against the Saharawi prisoners?