

**Question for written answer E-001552/2019**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Sophia in 't Veld (ALDE) and Marietje Schaake (ALDE)**

Subject: VP/HR - The stoning to death of LGBTI people in Brunei

On 3 April 2019, Brunei will implement a new law making death by stoning a legitimate punishment for LGBTI people found guilty of having sex or committing adultery. The new law is part of a three-phase plan introduced in 2014 and is meant to be a move away from secular law. Under the new legislation, the amputation of a limb will also become a legitimate punishment for children convicted of theft.

The universal abolition of the death penalty is one of the EU's external relations priorities. Is the VP/HR aware of the recent announcement by the Brunei authorities about the new law, what measures has she taken or will she take in response and will those measures include talks at the highest level aiming to prevent the implementation of the law and place a moratorium on the death penalty?

Is the provision of financial aid to civil society in Brunei conditional upon its government's protection of the LGBTI rights enshrined in EU policies and will the VP/HR suspend all financial aid to Brunei if the law is adopted next week?

What measures could the VP/HR take if Brunei implements the law and will these include targeted sanctions against high-level individuals, including the Sultan of Brunei, under the future EU human rights sanctions regime?