Question for written answer E-002821/2019 to the Commission

Rule 138

Patrizia Toia (S&D), Alessandra Moretti (S&D) and Pina Picierno (S&D)

Subject: Discrimination against women in Iran

On March 12 2019, Sahar Khodayari, an Iranian girl who supported Esteghlal FC, disguised herself as a man in order to enter a stadium at which her team was playing. However, she was discovered, arrested, held in custody for three days and sentenced to six months' imprisonment on charges of indecency. Unable to face the prospect of jail, she set herself on fire and, on 10 September, died of her burns.

Unfortunately, the massive discrimination suffered by women in the Islamic Republic of Iran is no secret. They are required to wear veils at all times and are banned from entering stadiums during football matches.

In view of this, what action will the Commission take through diplomatic channels to obtain greater freedom for women in Iran and enable them to make their own choices? What projects will be launched or other measures taken to eliminate stereotypes and sexist attacks?

PE 640.473 1188925.EN