

**Question for written answer E-004260/2019/rev.1**

**to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy**

Rule 138

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Subject:     Repression in Iran

At least 143 people have been victims of repression in Iran since the protests against rising fuel prices. Access to the internet has been blocked to prevent protesters from reorganising themselves and to prevent any footage or images from reaching the West, but it could also be a sign that even greater violence is being used.

A new 'Arab autumn' in Lebanon and Iraq is disrupting the strategies of Iran, which is moving towards a dangerous trend of exporting its repression model in order to stamp out uprisings quickly.

Nikta Esfandani, a girl aged only 14, was killed in Tehran on 16 November 2019 after being beaten on the head by the security forces. Her family was able to mourn her only after three days.

Tehran's prisons, including Evin and Fashafouyeh, are overcrowded because of the large number of demonstrators who have been detained, including numerous female students.

1. What measures does the High Representative intend to take to ensure that the rights of people demonstrating peacefully are safeguarded, especially those of women and children?
2. What measures does the High Representative intend to take to ensure that the rights of imprisoned protesters are being respected?