Question for written answer E-004582/2019
to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs
and Security Policy
Rule 138
Miapetra Kumpula-Natri (S&D)

Subject: Demonstrations in Iraq

Mass protests erupted in Iraq on 1 October 2019. Since then, the European External Action Service has reported that over 400 protestors have died and more than 15,000 people have been injured. Despite the resignation of Prime Minister Adel Abdul Mahdi, the protests have continued unabated.

Law enforcement officers have used excessive force, including live ammunition, against demonstrators in order to quell the protests. A solution is needed to end the violence and put Iraq back on a peaceful path towards democratisation.

1. The EU did not send an election monitoring mission to the 2018 parliamentary elections in Iraq. Given that there is a high possibility that new elections will be held in the near future, does the EU intend to send an election observation mission if invited by the Iraqi authorities?

2. Since 16th October 2017, the EU has provided training to law enforcement officials through the EU Advisory Mission to Iraq. Given the disproportionate use of force by Iraqi law enforcement officials against protestors, does the EU intend to re-evaluate its provision of training to Iraqi security officials?

Supporter¹

¹ This question is supported by a Member other than the author: Domènec Ruiz Devesa (S&D)