

Question for written answer E-001239/2020

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

Rule 138

Lars Patrick Berg (ID)

Subject: Afghanistan

The EU has stated that it welcomes the result of the September elections in Afghanistan. However, the EU is in a minority in doing so, with even UNAMA being guarded in its comments and calling for the law to be respected.

1. Would the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative comment on the 102 012 votes that were cast outside the polling timeframe, and the fact that 298 polling stations did not use the biometric system of voting?
2. Given these voting anomalies, and opposition anger at the behaviour of the Independent Election Commission (IEC), could the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative explain the EU's almost unilateral declaration of support?
3. Does the very low turnout in 2019, in comparison with 2014, indicate a lack of faith and trust in the electoral process among the Afghan people?