

**Question for written answer E-002117/2020/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: Trafficking of women from eastern Europe to the UAE

Many countries in the Middle East are not implementing the international standards to fight human trafficking. Countries such as Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Lebanon are considered to be the worst offenders.

However, in recent years the most alarming development that we have witnessed is the trafficking of women for slavery. Sadly, large numbers of those trafficked are victims of gangs. What is more, the aforementioned states have failed to take real constructive measures to protect these women.

A report from a number of human rights organisations have revealed that human trafficking from eastern Europe, Moldova and other countries to Dubai, UAE, is very severe. No actions or measures are in place to curb this crisis. The report contextualises the fifty-minute documentary from the International United Nation Watch (IUNW) entitled 'She is not for sale', which examines the trafficking of women from Moldova, the poorest country in Europe, to the UAE.

On 8 March 2020, 56 Members of the British Parliament and the House of Lords signed a petition submitted by the Scottish-based IUNW, calling on the UK Government to take action to put an end to the trafficking of women from eastern Europe to the UAE.

1. Does the VP/HR intend to focus on this issue and take action?
2. Will there be a repatriation scheme for those victims to Europe?
3. What measures will be taken to protect those victims in Dubai?