

Question for written answer E-003387/2020/rev.1

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

Rule 138

Gianna Gancia (ID)

Subject: Perpetrator of international child abuse images freed

Saadat Amin was arrested in 2017 by the Pakistan Federal Investigation Agency's cybercrime unit following a complaint from the Norwegian embassy. Amin was identified as an active member of an international network operating and transmitting child sex abuse images for financial gain.

Over 650 000 pictures and videos related to child sexual abuse were recovered from Amin's possession.

On 26 April 2018, Saadat Amin was given a seven-year jail sentence, but in May 2020 the Lahore High Court released Amin on bail.

UNICEF states that 'Children in Pakistan are vulnerable to many forms of violence (..) and exploitation. (..) Nearly 30 years after Pakistan ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), no public coordinated child protection case management and referral system, as aligned with international standards, has been established'.

The prosecution of perpetrators of violence against women and girls in Pakistan is almost zero.

Does the Vice-President / High Representative agree that Pakistan is failing to effectively implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)?

What action has the Vice-President / High Representative taken with Pakistan regarding its violations of the CRC and its failure to protect children?

Are violations against children considered in Pakistan's GSP+ scorecard?