

Question for written answer E-000652/2021

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

Rule 138

Tineke Strik (Verts/ALE)

Subject: The arrest of Maati Monjib by the Moroccan authorities

Amnesty International¹ has recently stated that Maati Monijb, who was arrested on 29 December 2020 after years of harassment and unlawful surveillance by the Moroccan authorities, is a prisoner of conscience and should therefore be released immediately and unconditionally.

In 2015, in response to Written Question E-013152/2015², the then Vice-President / High Representative of the Commission stated that the EU was closely following the situation and had raised the case of Mr Monjib and the general human rights situation in Morocco with the Moroccan authorities. She then added that the EU continued to encourage the acceleration of reforms through its financial assistance to the country.

The EU Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) has allegedly been involved in surveillance training of the Moroccan police³.

1. What position does the VP/HR take regarding Amnesty International's statement on Mr Monjib?
2. Can he provide more detail on how EU financial assistance to Morocco is used to promote human rights, how this is monitored, and in what exact way these efforts have led to the improvement of the human rights situation in the country?
3. Can he fully rule out the possibility that CEPOL training techniques have been used in the unlawful surveillance of Mr Monjib and other human rights activists?

¹ <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde29/3481/2021/en/>

² https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-8-2015-013152-ASW_EN.html

³ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2020-006547_EN.html#ref1