

Question for written answer E-002344/2021

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

Rule 138

Robert Biedroń (S&D)

Subject: Escalation of repression against the Polish minority in Belarus

On 25 March, the Prosecutor General of Belarus announced the launch of criminal proceedings against the leaders of the Union of Poles in Belarus (ZPB): Andżelika Borys, Andrzej Poczobut, Maria Tiszkowska, Anna Paniszewa and Irena Biernacka. The absurd allegations made against Polish activists include 'incitement to hatred' and 'rehabilitation of Nazism'.

On 14 April, the Belarusian police detained the Secretary of the ZPB management board, Andrzej Pisalnik, who on that day was to have been a special guest at a meeting of the EP Delegation for relations with Belarus. His wife, Iness Todryk-Pisalnik, was also detained.

In connection with my letters of 31 March and 15 April, what action has the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy taken in the light of the escalation of repression against the Polish minority in Belarus and the provocative arrest of Mr Pisalnik, as a result of which representatives of the European institutions were unable to obtain reliable information about the situation in Belarus?