

Question for written answer E-003153/2021/rev.1

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

Rule 138

Dietmar Köster (S&D)

Subject: COVID-19 in Bahraini prisons

On 9 June 2021, Husain Barakat, a Bahraini political prisoner, passed away after having contracted COVID-19. His death highlights the current COVID-19 crisis in Bahrain and the failure of the authorities to protect prisoners and provide them with adequate medical care.

1. Given the current situation with COVID-19 in Bahraini prisons, what measures will the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (VP/HR) take to help ensure that Bahrain complies with the UN Nelson Mandela Rules?
2. In the light of the death of Husain Barakat, what action is the VP/HR willing to take to address the detention conditions in Bahraini prisons and the negligence of the Bahraini authorities in dealing with the spread of COVID-19?
3. Will the VP/HR call for an independent investigation into Husain Barakat's death?