

Question for written answer E-003470/2021/rev.1

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

Rule 138

Ivan Vilibor Sinčić (NI)

Subject: Human rights violations at Dubai Expo 2021 and serious migrant worker abuses

Reports published by Amnesty International, Migrant-Rights.org and Equidem in September and November 2020 and by The Nation in October 2020 allege that Dubai Expo 2021 workers paid recruitment fees and also reported concerns regarding withheld passports, unpaid wages, below-minimum wages, inadequate personal protective equipment and a lack of testing during the COVID-19 pandemic, plus forced contract changes, terminations without notice and deductions from end-of-service benefits.

Reports on the widespread human rights violations in the UAE began circulating in 2020. In September 2020, Migrant-Rights.org and Human Rights Watch revealed new horrifying details of human rights abuses and deprivations of workers' rights.

Given that the UAE has ratified international conventions that protect labour rights, what could the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy do to guarantee that it fully respects these international conventions?