

**Question for written answer E-004643/2021/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: Human rights in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

The signing of a cooperation arrangement between the EU and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia establishes a platform for regular consultations on a range of issues, and there has already been a human rights dialogue held in Brussels. With the EU being Saudi Arabia's second biggest trading partner and biggest foreign direct investor, there is considerable leverage for it to use these platforms to support human rights in Saudi Arabia.

1. What conversations has the Vice-President / High Representative (VP/HR) had with Saudi representatives regarding the ongoing detention of senior detainees such as Prince Turki bin Abdullah and Mohammed bin Nayef?
2. Does the VP/HR have a position on the need for greater domestic political accountability of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman given his role in various human rights abuses both within and outside Saudi Arabia?