

Question for written answer E-001461/2022

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

Rule 138

Fulvio Martusciello (PPE)

Subject: The murder of Mboneni Ncube

Mboneni Ncube was a Citizens' Coalition for Change (CCC) supporter. The CCC is a Zimbabwean political party led by politician and lawyer Advocate Nelson Chamisa and its official spokesperson is Fadzayi Mahere. The social-democratic ideology and the centre-left political position of this newborn party has always been in conflict with the Zimbabwe African National Union – Patriotic Front (ZANU–PF), the ruling party in Zimbabwe since independence in 1980.

Mboneni Ncube was stabbed to death with a spear by suspected ZANU-PF supporters at a CCC rally in Kwekwe. Furthermore this grisly murder has taken a new twist, as the murder suspects are reportedly harassing and threatening to kill witnesses, including the deceased's sister. Judith Ncube, the activist's sister, was recently kidnapped by suspected ZANU-PF supporters, who threatened to kill her if she continued demanding answers about her brother's murder.

Is the VP/HR aware of the total lack of transparency and blatant absence of democratic processes in Zimbabwe that continuously result in these dramatic episodes and could possibly lead to violence in the 2023 election campaign?