

Question for written answer E-004037/2022

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

Rule 138

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Subject: Decisive EU response to the execution of Mohsen Shekari by the Islamic Republic of Iran

Following what Amnesty Iran describes as a 'grossly unfair sham trial', the execution of the 23-year-old pro-democracy protester Mohsen Shekari by hanging on 7 December is a fundamental escalation of the Islamic Republic's criminal repression campaign.

The authorities in Tehran will interpret any absence of a clear international response as acquiescence. With 18 000 peaceful protesters detained and dozens on death row, the spectre of mass executions looms large.

Since the killing of Mahsa (Jina) Amini on 16 September, the EU has imposed sanctions on a mere 42 individuals and seven entities. This is clearly not proportionate to the gravity of Tehran's human rights violations.

1. In coordination with Member States and like-minded partners, what concrete actions will the Vice-President / High Representative (VP/HR), the Commission and the European External Action Service take to prevent the Islamic Republic from executing any further protesters?
2. What new restrictive measures against the Islamic Republic, fully commensurate with the gravity of this escalation by the Iranian authorities, will the VP/HR propose to Member States on 12 December at the meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council?
3. In the light of the Islamic Republic's ever-increasing repression, how will the VP/HR substantially enhance the EU's support to Iran's brave pro-democratic movement?

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