Minor interpellation for written answer K-000002/17

to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)

Rule 130a

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Subject: VP/HR - The conclusion of EU-Egypt Partnership Priorities

Following the horrendous bombing of two Coptic churches in Egypt two weeks ago, President Sisi
declared a three-month state of emergency. Intrusive powers of the police and security apparatus
have already been far-reaching since President Sisi came to power in 2013, but are now likely to
become even more invasive. While President Sisi’s crackdown on civil society and the persecution
of human rights defenders is likely to continue and even worsen, the EU is set to conclude partnership
priorities with Egypt before the summer.

How does the VP/HR think the state of emergency will affect the ongoing repression of basic
principles, freedoms and human rights in Egyptian civil society?

How will the continuing human rights violations affect the conclusion of the EU-Egypt Partnership
Priorities? How will the VP/HR guarantee that human rights are given precedence over migration
management and counter terrorism in these EU-Egypt Partnership Priorities?

The European Council’s conclusions about Egypt of 6 March 2017 did not once mention human
rights. When was the last time the VP/HR herself discussed human rights in her dealings with
Egyptian authorities?