

**Question for written answer P-001831/2012  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 117  
**Thijs Berman (S&D)**

Subject: VP/HR - Gay rights in Uganda

On Tuesday, 14 February 2012 gay activists held a workshop on the rights of sexual minorities in a hotel in Entebbe, Uganda. It was organised by a prominent gay rights activist, Kasha N. Jacqueline Nabagasera. The police raided the hotel and tried to arrest Kasha Jacqueline Nabagasera, who has since gone into hiding. The Ugandan Ethics and Integrity Minister, Simon Lokodo, personally attended this raid and ordered the arrest of Jacqueline. He stated that the gathering was 'illegal'.

This raid comes days after a Ugandan MP has reintroduced a controversial anti-homosexuality bill, which imposes the death penalty on those who participate in 'serial' homosexual acts, and increases the basic penalty for homosexual acts to life imprisonment from the current 14 years.

1. Has the Vice-President / High Representative asked the Ugandan government for an explanation of this raid and the presence of the minister Simon Lokodo?
2. What action will the Vice-President / High Representative take to put further pressure on the Ugandan government to respect human rights in the country, and especially the rights of gay and lesbian Ugandan citizens?
3. Does the Vice-President / High Representative plan to take action if the anti-homosexuality bill is passed by the Ugandan parliament? If so, what action?