

**Question for written answer P-012679/2015**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Bas Belder (ECR)**

Subject: VP/HR - Destruction of Christian slums in Islamabad, Pakistan

In 2012 some 800 Christians fled to slum district H-9 in Islamabad as a result of the Rimsha case. They live there in pitiful conditions in tents, without clean drinking water or electricity. The Pakistan Government is now demolishing this district on the grounds that the Christians are living there illegally. The Christians deny this and say that they were given permission by the government at the time to move to the slum district. The Capital Development Authority in Islamabad disputes this. The residents are being told that they just need to return to their former district, but their houses have already been taken over by other people. Furthermore, if they were to return, their lives would be in danger. So far seven houses have been demolished and some 40 Christians have lost their homes. According to the Pakistani media, the slum clearance affects between 80 000 and 100 000 people, both Christians and Muslims. In this Christian district H-9 it is particularly bad because these Christians did not move to the slum voluntarily but had to flee because of threats from Muslims.

What urgent representations to the Pakistani authorities does the EU propose to make on behalf of the Christians in district H-9 in Islamabad?