

Question for written answer P-002031/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Ashley Fox (ECR)

Subject: Human Rights breaches in Morocco

I have been contacted by several groups within my constituency who are concerned about human rights breaches in Morocco.

Whilst they have highlighted the general rise of detention without trial and torture of citizens as a means of extracting 'confessions', it is the specific cases of Ali Aarrass, Wafae Charaf and Oussama Housne that are of paramount concern.

Mr Aarrass was extradited from Spain to Morocco, where he has been subjected to torture and denied medical assistance over a number of years.

Ms Charaf and Mr Housne have both been subjected to imprisonment after reporting brutal beatings to the police after leaving protests.

Could the Commission answer the following:

1. Has the Commission been liaising with the Moroccan mission to the EU to ensure that the International Convention against Torture, to which Morocco is a signatory, is being upheld?
2. What steps will the Commission take to ensure that neighbouring countries respect the rule of law and proper judicial process?
3. Can the Commission comment on Spain's disgraceful conduct of extraditing Ali Aarras without properly assessing the risk of torture in Morocco?