

**Priority question for written answer P-003911/2021**  
**to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs**  
**and Security Policy**  
Rule 138  
**José Ramón Bauzá Díaz (Renew)**

Subject: Subject: Europe's response to the advance of the Taliban in Afghanistan

The rapid advance of the Taliban and the collapse of the civilian administration in Afghanistan has plunged the country into a humanitarian and human rights catastrophe which is affecting women especially severely. The return to power of the Taliban threatens to cast Afghanistan back into the darkest years of its past, when the application by extremists of Sharia law deprived the population of their dignity and the most basic of rights, including access to education for girls.

Similarly, the rise of the Taliban is swelling the exodus of refugees to Europe and fuelling fears that Afghanistan might once again be used as a platform for terrorist groups that could carry out attacks on European soil.

In view of the above:

1. What steps will the European Union take to ensure respect for the dignity and human rights of the Afghan population, and especially women and girls, in the face of the Taliban's advance?
2. What measures are being envisaged to address the growing influx of Afghan refugees and the risk of fresh terrorist attacks from inside Afghanistan?