

Priority question for written answer P-002496/2023/rev.1
to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Rule 138
Silvia Sardone (ID)

Subject: Promotion of the Islamic headscarf in communications from the EU institutions

To celebrate the recent 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the European Union's diplomatic service posted on its website and social media profiles a call for young people the world over to honour this historic day in which it used images where the first young person shown was a girl in a headscarf. In recent years, numerous communications from the EU institutions have shown videos and photos showing images of young girls or depictions of women with the hijab or abaya, the long dress traditionally worn in some Islamic countries.

Can the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy answer the following questions:

1. How can it be that the EU's diplomatic service is using photos and images of women wearing the Islamic headscarf?
2. Given the protests by women in Iran against having to wear the headscarf, is it not counter-productive to promote it in Europe?
3. What is his stance on France's recent decision to ban wearing the abaya in schools?

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