

**Question for written answer E-000268/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - Harassment of the LGBTI community in Egypt

Egypt is experiencing a wave of repression against LGBTI people. Last week 33 Egyptian citizens were arrested at a public bath after being accused of 'libertinism' and practising 'immoral and indecent acts' amongst men. Last month, eight Egyptian men were condemned to a three-year prison sentence for simulating a gay wedding. Numerous NGOs are warning about the Abdel Fattah el-Sisi government's use of social media to crackdown on the homosexual community.

1. What actions does the VP/HR plan to develop to defend equal rights for LGBTI people in Egypt and demand a cease in attacks towards this community?
2. Will the VP/HR work to guarantee asylum rights in the EU to citizens persecuted in third countries for their sexual orientation, as EU regulation states and as the Court of Justice has expressed?
3. Is the European External Action Service providing the European Asylum Support Office and Member States with the information gathered by EU delegations on the situation of LGBTI people in third countries?