Question for written answer E-000660/2018 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Isabella De Monte (S&D) and Herbert Dorfmann (PPE)

Subject: VP/HR - Situation of the English-speaking community in Cameroon

Strife broke out between the English- and French-speaking communities in Cameroon in October 2017. Eight people were killed and several others injured in clashes between the army and protesters in the English-speaking area. The English-speaking community makes up a fifth of Cameroon's population and has for some time been suffering discrimination at the hands of the French-speaking majority community and of the French-speaking Government, which has previously been accused of corruption. Under the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Cameroon the regions used to enjoy wide-ranging autonomy, and French and English were both official languages. The English-speaking separatist movement, which has continued the protests, has been calling for a declaration of independence in order to bring about a complete secession, thereby creating the 'Republic of Ambazonia'.

In the light of these serious events:

- Is the High Representative aware of the above-mentioned discrimination? What will she do to protect the English-speaking community in Cameroon, not least in view of the fact that the Cameroonian Army has resorted to shooting?
- How does she intend to respond to the possibility of secession and a self-declared 'Republic of Ambazonia'?

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