

**Question for written answer E-002847/2018
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - Follow-up on the Council's conclusions on Myanmar of 26 February 2018 and its decision 2018/655

In light of the widespread, systematic and grave human rights violations committed by Myanmar/Burma military and security forces in Rakhine State, the Council adopted decision 2018/655¹ establishing a legal framework for targeted sanctions against certain persons from the Myanmar Armed Forces and the border guard police.

The Council conclusions² invited Myanmar/Burma to seek accountability for the alleged crimes against humanity, mentioning a self-referral to the International Criminal Court pursuant to Article 12(3) of the Rome Statute. Sadly, the fourth Myanmar-EU Human Rights Dialogue's joint press release³ does not mention the EU raising these points.

The Myanmar Government's attempts to bury the evidence, as documented by Amnesty International⁴, show the need for an impartial, independent mechanism (IIM) to support investigations into the alleged atrocity crimes, focused on collecting and preserving evidence for inclusion in a master database for international criminal proceedings.

1. What is the timeline for the implementation of the restrictive measures, specifically establishing the list of targeted individuals?
2. Has the VP/HR been encouraging third countries, notably Australia, to follow suit, as mentioned in the Article 11 of the decision?
3. What steps is the EU-/VP/HR taking to press Myanmar/Burma to seek accountability and to support the establishment of the IIM?

¹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legalcontent/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32018D0655&qid=1525780037173&from=EN>

² <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-6418-2018-INIT/en/pdf>

³ https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en/41089/JOINT%20PRESS%20RELEASE:%20Myanmar%20and%20the%20European%20Union%20hold%204th%20Human%20Rights%20Dialogue

⁴ <https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/ASA1680182018ENGLISH.PDF>