Question for written answer E-004189/2018 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Marie-Christine Arnautu (ENF)

Subject: VP/HR - Land owned by white farmers in South Africa expropriated without compensation

Experienced farmers, the Boers have farmed land in South Africa since they settled there in the 17th century, at which time the region was only inhabited by a few nomadic tribes.

When the apartheid regime ended, respect for private property was guaranteed. However, in February 2018, a parliamentary bill opening the way to expropriation of white-owned farms without any financial compensation was pushed through Parliament, with the support of the ANC, by Julius Malema and his openly anti-white extreme left-wing party. A threat that is now becoming a reality in Gauteng province following an announcement by Minister Jacob Mamabolo.

Farmers in South Africa have seen their situation grow steadily worse since the 1990s. In 1994 there were 65 000 white farmers in South Africa; today there are only 35 000, with 4 000 said to have been murdered. It is among the white population in South Africa that poverty is growing fastest. Tens of thousands of white people now live in shanty towns, while nearly a million have left the country, taking their skills with them, on account of the positive discrimination that places them at a disadvantage.

Is the High Representative contemplating any action to bring pressure to bear on the South African Government to end this discriminatory policy?

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