

**Question for written answer E-005735/2021**

**to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy**

Rule 138

**Silvio Berlusconi (PPE), Antonio Tajani (PPE), Isabella Adinolfi (PPE), Andrea Caroppo (PPE), Salvatore De Meo (PPE), Herbert Dorfmann (PPE), Fulvio Martusciello (PPE), Aldo Patriciello (PPE), Luisa Regimenti (PPE), Massimiliano Salini (PPE), Lucia Vuolo (PPE)**

Subject: Persecution of Christians in India and Myanmar

Worrying instances of anti-Christian hatred occurred around the world at Christmas, particularly in India and Myanmar, where there was an escalation of attacks on Christian communities not seen in years. Crimes against Christians in India increased by 40.8% in 2021: churches ruined, priests spied on and beaten, murders, rapes, as well as access to medical care and water sources denied. All this is against a community providing free education and care to the poorest. The blocking of foreign funding to Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity risks leaving 22 000 aid workers and recipients without food and medicine. On 24 December, 38 people travelling by road were brutally murdered, including a child and two missing aid workers, in the eastern state of Kayah in Myanmar, where half the population is Christian.

We therefore put the following questions to the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy:

1. What actions will be taken in response to this serious violation of religious freedom?
2. What diplomatic action will be taken in response to the brutal attacks on Christian communities by the RSS Hindu paramilitary organisation and the military regime in Myanmar?