

Question for written answer E-001516/2022

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

Rule 138

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Subject: Restrictions of fundamental freedoms in Algeria

During the 49th session of the UN Human Rights Council, held in March 2022, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR), Michelle Bachelet, expressed concerns regarding restrictions of fundamental freedoms in Algeria. She cited the worrying increase in the number of arrests and detentions of human rights defenders, civil society members and political opponents as her primary concerns.

The UNHCHR urged the Algerian Government to reverse its approach and to take the necessary measures to guarantee the rights of its people, regarding freedom of speech, association and assembly.

This alarming situation has gained international media attention, while Algerian civil society members consistently express their deep concerns about the arbitrary actions of the Algerian authorities against their political opponents.

With this in mind:

1. What is the VP / HR's assessment of the human rights situation in Algeria?
2. Does the EU intend to call for an end to these human rights violations, which have been condemned by the UNHCHR? Does it plan to adopt sanctions against the Algerian officials responsible for instigating them?