

**Minor interpellation for written answer O-000036/2017
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130a

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Subject: Minor interpellation - VP/HR - The conclusion of EU-Egypt Partnership Priorities

Following the horrendous bombing of two Coptic churches in Egypt two weeks ago, President Sisi declared a three-month state of emergency. Intrusive powers of the police and security apparatus have already been far-reaching since President Sisi came to power in 2013, but are now likely to become even more invasive. While President Sisi's crackdown on civil society and the persecution of human rights defenders is likely to continue and even worsen, the EU is set to conclude partnership priorities with Egypt before the summer.

How does the VP/HR think the state of emergency will affect the ongoing repression of basic principles, freedoms and human rights in Egyptian civil society?

How will the continuing human rights violations affect the conclusion of the EU-Egypt Partnership Priorities? How will the VP/HR guarantee that human rights are given precedence over migration management and counter terrorism in these EU-Egypt Partnership Priorities?

The European Council's conclusions about Egypt of 6 March 2017 did not once mention human rights. When was the last time the VP/HR herself discussed human rights in her dealings with Egyptian authorities?