

Question for written answer E-014626/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Claude Rolin (PPE)

Subject: VP/HR - The political situation in Burundi

I am extremely concerned at the alarming reports from Burundi. Acts of political violence have worsened since April this year, when the President of Burundi announced his intention of seeking a third term, completely disregarding his country's constitution. Since then, there has been a worrying increase in violence, roundups of people and enforced disappearances. More and more members of the opposition, human rights activists and civilians are being murdered. There is a risk of conflagration in the region.

There must therefore be vigorous and immediate EU diplomatic efforts to ensure that the gruesome process getting under way in the country is halted as soon as possible. The EU must demand that the Burundian authorities guarantee the safety of all and must urge the Burundian Government to return to democracy, dialogue and compliance with the Arusha Accords.

Is the High Representative planning to go to Bujumbura in order to warn the Burundian authorities against any attempt to commit crimes against humanity and act within the United Nations with a view to ensuring that an international force is ready to intervene under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter (restoration of peace) so as, where necessary, to aid the population?