

**Question for written answer E-016028/2015  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - LGBT rights in Tunisia

In recent months, harassment and persecution of the gay community in Tunisia has intensified. The most recent case occurred on 10 December 2015 when six university students were sentenced in Kairouan to three years of imprisonment and five years of banishment for 'homosexual acts'. Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International have already condemned the sentence.

The Tunisian Criminal Code criminalises homosexuality in its Articles 220 and 230, which leads to the restriction of individual freedoms and the invasion of citizens' privacy, thus violating human rights.

How is the EU addressing the issue of violations of LGBT rights in Tunisia? In the framework of EU-Tunisia relations, what measures will the VP/HR take in order to urge the Tunisian Government to repeal Articles 220 and 230 of the Criminal Code?