Question for written answer E-015923/2015 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Ángela Vallina (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Repercussions of the ECJ judgment on Western Sahara

The EU and Morocco have had an Association Agreement since 2000. This trade treaty (EUR 29 500 million in 2014) is one of many which by allowing Saharawi resources and goods to be exported to the EU sustains, with the complicity of a great many European multinationals, the Kingdom of Morocco's occupation of Western Sahara.

The Court of Justice of the European Union annulled one of these agreements (Decision 2012/497/EU) recently, on account of the resources and goods of the occupied territories being included in its scope. The judgment reaffirmed that, as stated in international law, the Kingdom of Morocco does not have sovereignty over Western Sahara.

Following on from this, will the Commission review all EU-Morocco agreements in force, including the Association Agreement, to make sure Western Sahara is not included in their scope?

Will it apply the judgment to the current negotiations on the free trade agreement on tariffs and regulatory matters (the DCFTA) with Morocco?

Finally and in order to ensure that it is the Saharawi people who benefit from the exploitation of Western Sahara's resources (UN Article 73), will the Commission recognise the Polisario Front, the Saharawi people's international representative in the eyes of the UN, as the sole legitimate interlocutor in future trade agreements?

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