

Question for written answer E-016019/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Csaba Sógor (PPE)

Subject: VP/HR - EU-Laos Working Group on Human Rights and Governance

On 6 November 2015, the EU and the Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR) held their sixth annual Working Group on Human Rights and Governance in Vientiane. According to a press release issued by the European External Action Service, the Working Group included an exchange of views on a 'wide range of issues, including governance and the rule of law, democratic freedoms and people's participation as well as human rights and socio-economic development, and international cooperation'.

Given that the right to freedom of religion or belief was discussed during the Working Group, how does the EU plan to work with the Lao PDR Government and civil society to further promote and protect this right in Laos?

What is the EU doing to encourage Laos and other ASEAN member states to place human rights and fundamental freedoms at the centre of ASEAN discussions?