

Question for written answer E-004685/2025

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 144

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Subject: The situation in Sudan and the ongoing negotiations with the United Arab Emirates

The recent siege of El Fasher has been followed by atrocious crimes against human rights in Sudan, further exacerbating the humanitarian situation. The population is facing famine, sexual violence used as a weapon of war, ethnically targeted attacks and acts of violence, possibly constituting genocidal acts. Yet this does not stop the EU from taking a seat at the negotiating table across from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) – a key actor fuelling and financing the ongoing war, with human bodies as the battlefield. Besides increasing our humanitarian response and sanctioning those responsible for human rights violations, we must also address our part in the destabilisation of resource-rich regions such as Sudan.

1. Parliament's recent resolution on renewing the EU-Africa partnership calls for the suspension of trade in critical raw materials which cannot be verified as not being conflict minerals or blood minerals. Will the Vice-President / High Representative explore a full ban on all minerals whose origins cannot be traced, to ensure that no blood minerals enter the EU?
2. In addition, the resolution calls strongly for the EU and the African Union to take immediate joint action to eliminate gender-based violence and discrimination. What concrete steps will the Vice-President / High Representative take to this end?
3. Will the EU halt negotiations on the trade deal with the UAE until the UAE halts its involvement in Sudan?

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