Priority question for written answer P-001630/2024
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: New Afghan morality law or law of silence, the culmination of a regime of 'gender *apartheid*'

The Taliban regime in Afghanistan has taken a further step towards 'gender *apartheid*' with the recent publication of the law of silence, banning, among other things, the sound of women's voices in public.

Afghan women and girls are under a repressive regime that violates their most basic human rights. They are victims of oppression, violence, harassment and constant mistreatment.

Recently, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Josep Borrell, stated[1] that these practices constitute a crime against humanity under Article 7 of the Rome Statute. The Spanish Government has expressed[2] its determination to 'lead the fight against gender *apartheid*' at the global level.

In view of this unsustainable situtation:

1. What measures do the EU and its Member States intend to take, in line with the Council conclusions on Afghanistan[3] , to prevent violations of women's fundamental rights in Afghanistan?

2. Will the EU and its Member States consider taking this issue to the International Criminal Court?

3. What role will the EU play with regard to international protection for Afghan women who flee to the European Union?

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[1] https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/08/26/afghanistan-statement-of-the-high-representative-on-behalf-of-the-eu-on-latest-restrictions-imposed-by-the-taliban-on-the-people/?utm_source=brevo&utm_campaign=AUTOMATED%20-%20Alert%20-%20Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_id=320

[2] https://www.eldiario.es/politica/igualdad-propone-liderar-lucha-apartheid-genero-afganistan_1_11619708.html

[3] https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-7264-2023-INIT/en/pdf