

**FORM FOR TABLING A QUESTION FOR
WRITTEN ANSWER (Rule 130)**

Select only one addressee:

PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

☐

COUNCIL

☒

VICE-PRESIDENT / HIGH REPRESENTATIVE

☐

COMMISSION

☐

Priority question

☐

AUTHOR(S): Alyn Smith, Ana Gomes, Marietje Schaake, Barbara Lochbihler, Bodil Ceballos, Marie-Christine Vergiat, Judith Sargentini, Fabio Massimo Castaldo

SUBJECT: Tunisia-EU Counter Terrorism Cooperation & Human Rights
(please specify)

TEXT:

The European Council of 12/02/2015 declared the EU needs "to engage more (...) on counter-terrorism, particularly in the Middle East and North Africa (...)." The Foreign Affairs Council of 09/02/2015 the EU needs to upgrade "security and counter-terrorism dialogues" with Tunisia. To that end, the EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator is now visiting Tunisia.

Meanwhile representatives from 21 Tunisian associations and unions just voiced their concern the EU could repeat past mistakes. The European Neighbourhood Policy Commissioner publically recognized those mistakes in 2011 - i.e. serving Tunisia's repressive state, by reinforcing it without effective guarantees against misuse of European assistance.

- What are the effective guarantees to ensure EU programmes in Tunisia are in line with the European Parliament's 11/02/2015 resolution on anti-terrorism measures, which "emphasised, in particular, the need for the EU, its Member States and its partner countries to base their strategy for combating international terrorism on the rule of law and respect for fundamental rights" ?

- Will the Council work on a harmonized, unambiguous definition of terrorism with Tunisia?

- Does the Council believe Tunisia fully complies with the standards set by European Convention on Human Rights article 6 on the right to a fair trial?

Signature(s):

Date: : February 24 2015