

Priority question for written answer

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

Rule 138

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Subject: Pakistan motorway case

In September, several media outlets reported on a rape case that happened in Lahore, Pakistan. The 'motorway case' involved a woman who was sexually assaulted in front of her children after waiting for assistance in her car on the highway in Lahore. The Lahore Capital City Police Officer (CCPO) Umar Sheikhs, responded by victim-blaming the woman. This all has stirred public outcry and rage, calling for actions to be taken to address sexual violence in the country. This horrendous case happened not long after a five year old girl in Karachi was raped and then set on fire.

1) Does the High Representative/Vice-President condemn the sexual violence cases that happened in September 2020 in Pakistan?

2) What concrete actions is the High Representative/Vice-President planning to take to ensure that any current and future engagement plans with Pakistan are based on the promotion of women's rights and the elimination of all forms of violence against women?

3) What steps will the Commission and the High Representative/Vice-President take to make all funding programmes with Pakistan conditional on the basis of advancement of women's rights through gender mainstreaming as one of its funding objectives?