

FORM FOR TABLING A QUESTION FOR  
WRITTEN ANSWER (Rule 130)**Select only one addressee:**

PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL

COUNCIL

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COMMISSION

Priority question

AUTHOR(S): Tibor SZANYI (S&amp;D)

SUBJECT: Sudden arrest of IUSY President and Perak State Assemblyman Howard Lee in Malaysia  
(please specify)

## TEXT:

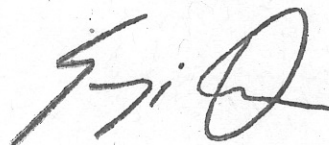
Recent political developments in Malaysia are highly troubling. One can see an increased persecution of activists, journalists, opposition politicians and anyone who criticizes the government. Therefore the EU too, must look beyond its trade relation with the Southeast Asian country and pay attention to the plummeting respect for human rights.

The latest example of this worrisome trend is the arrest of Howard Lee and other members of the Malaysian opposition.

Howard Lee, representative in the Perak State Assembly in Malaysia and also president of the International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY), along with some of his fellow protesters was taken into custody by the police for participating in a rally organized to call for clean elections, clean government, the strengthening of parliamentary democracy, right to dissent, denounce the abuse of power by the current Prime Minister, and denounce the gerrymandering of the election commission for the upcoming elections. Currently Assemblyman Lee and other activists are being held at the State Police Headquarters in Kuala Lumpur while no lawyer has been allowed to contact them.

- 1) Is the Commission aware of the worrying human rights situation in Malaysia?
- 2) What does the Commission intend to do to address this highly alarming issue?

Signature(s):



Date: 20/11/2016