

Brussels, 18 DEC. 2017
A(2017)5198862-5895628

Ms Ana Gomes MEP
European Parliament
60 rue Wiertz
1047 Brussels

Dear Ana,

I would hereby like to thank you for your letter dated 20 October, whereby you express your concerns about the case of Mr Ali Isa Al Tajer.

I am well aware of this case, as it has equally been brought to my attention by the EU Delegation in Riyadh, which is accredited to Bahrain. We have been following this matter closely, liaising with Mr Al Tajer's family and inquiring with the Bahrain Ombudsman office.

We are pursuing our engagement with the Bahraini authorities, including during our informal dialogue on human rights between the EU and Bahrain, which will hold its second session in April 2017 in Brussels.

The EU constantly reiterates to the Bahraini authorities that respect for human rights and individual freedom is crucial to a peaceful, stable, and thriving society. We equally emphasize that security concerns can never justify human rights violations nor hinder their respect.

These messages have been repeatedly delivered to Bahraini authorities both at the political and at the technical level. Please rest reassured that we will continue to discuss this individual case and wider human rights issues with the Government of Bahrain by all available means at our disposal.

Yours sincerely,



Federica Mogherini