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Federica Mogherini

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

Brussels, 7 November 2018

Dear Federica,

I would like to bring to your attention the case of Alfredo Okenve, a leading civil society activist in Equatorial Guinea.

Mr Okenve reported having been attacked by security officers without their uniforms on the 27 October 2018. According to the activist, the men forced him out of his car at gunpoint, then beat him severely and stabbed him. He was then abandoned in a remote area.

It is possible that the officers were targeting his brother, Mr Celestino Okenve, who is the head of an opposition party. The Equatorial Guinean government has not yet responded to the allegations.

Unfortunately, opposition political parties and civil society are often victims of unjustified crackdowns and activists suffer arbitrary detentions. The Human Rights situation in the country is critical.

I therefore urge you and the EEAS to take action regarding this issue and to put pressure on the Equatorial Guinean authorities to make a thorough investigation and public statement on the attack against Alfredo Okenve.

*Best regards,
Ana Gomes*

Ana Gomes

Member of the European Parliament

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