

**Question for written answer E-006495/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)

Subject: EU-Cuba negotiations

The second round of negotiations between the European Union and Cuba on a possible bilateral agreement came to a close during the final week of August 2014.

Cuba is, however, one of the few countries that have not ratified international agreements on civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. Furthermore, the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union both stipulate that the EU's external policy must be directed towards the promotion of human rights.

1. Will the EU make signature of any agreement with Cuba conditional upon the aforementioned human rights agreements being ratified and genuinely complied with?
2. The EU delegation, headed by Christian Leffler, spoke of 'substantial progress': what 'substantial progress' has been made on human rights specifically?