

**Question for written answer E-007355/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Free trade agreement with Colombia and human rights

Article 1 of the free trade agreement between the EU and Colombia reads as follows: 'Respect for democratic principles and fundamental human rights as laid down in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, and for the principle of the rule of law, underpins the internal and international policies of the Parties. Respect for these principles constitutes an essential element of this Agreement'.

The most recent annual report on the situation in Colombia by the United Nations' High Commissioner for Human Rights indicates that:

- by December 2013 the armed conflict had caused 5 966 211 victims, of whom 5 155 406 had undergone forced displacement;
- 39 human rights defenders had been killed;
- the police shot and killed nine demonstrators during protests in 2013;
- fifty-three lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) activists were killed during 2013;
- soldiers and commanders of the armed forces are still on trial for human rights violations.

Given these repeated violations of Article 1, will the Commission consider whether to suspend the free trade agreement with Colombia?