

Question for written answer E-009090/2014
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)

Subject: VP/HR - Human rights in Cuba

In response to a question (E-006495/2014) I had tabled on the statement by the Managing Director for the Americas, Christian Leffler, that 'substantial progress' had been made with regard to human rights in Cuba, the High Representative said, on 24 October 2014, that this progress had been made in the areas of cooperation and political dialogue. This is at a time when figures published by the Cuban Commission for Human Rights and National Reconciliation show that, in the first half of 2014, the number of recorded acts of political repression (which are human rights violations) was up by 275.5 % compared to the same period in 2013, while the overall number of acts of repression increased by 309.74 % between 2010 and 2013.

1. Does the EU Delegation only look at the official figures for human rights violations in Cuba, or does it also take into account data provided by the various national and international organisations working in this field?
2. How can progress possibly be made on cooperation and political dialogue with a regime that, according to the information available, is stepping up repression and committing an increasing number of human rights violations?
3. How does this state of affairs sit with the provisions of Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union, which sets out the guiding principles of EU external action?