

Question for written answer E-009416/2014
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)

Subject: VP/HR - Further human rights violation in Cuba

On 6 November last, for the fourth time in two and a half years, the Cuban authorities deferred the case of Sonia Garro Alfonso, a member of the *Damas de Blanco* [Ladies in White], her husband, Ramón Alejandro Muñoz González, and their neighbour Eugenio Hernández Hernández, who have been held in preventive custody since 18 March 2012, after being detained during a government campaign to suppress political demonstrations.

The constant deferral of the case by the Cuban authorities without explanation raises the suspicion that the charges against these three individuals may be politically motivated and that their fundamental rights are being infringed.

1. Will the High Representative ask the Cuban regime to proceed with the case in accordance with international standards?
2. Has the EU made any approach to the Cuban authorities to put an end to the continual harassment and arbitrary detention of members of the Damas de Blanco, as well as of other civil organizations, and to allow them to carry out their peaceful activities without fear of reprisals?
3. To what extent will this latest violation of the fundamental human rights of Cuban society affect the negotiations of the bilateral treaty between the EU and Cuba?