Question for written answer E-010607/2014 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130

Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)

Subject: VP/HR - Violation in Cuba of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on the

Protection of Human Rights Defenders

Mr Arturo Feliciano Acosta Guillén, the main human rights defender in the eastern part of Cuba, was recently detained arbitrarily for four hours and was threatened by the Cuban State Police in the city of Bayamo, while he was carrying out work of a strictly humanitarian nature.

His detention was a clear violation of his fundamental rights.

This is another case where one of the hundreds of human rights defenders in the Cuban opposition has been detained arbitrarily by the repressive forces of the Castro regime, when, in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, the Cuban State should ensure the protection and safety of such defenders.

- 1. Is the VP/HR aware of this latest violation of the fundamental rights of a Cuban activist?
- 2. Is the VP/HR planning to issue a statement of regret condemning this detention and the ongoing harassment of human rights defenders by the Cuban authorities?
- 3. How will the continued violation of human rights by the Cuban Government affect negotiations relating to the EU-Cuba Bilateral Agreement?

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