Question for written answer E-010958/2014 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Indigenous community harassed for activism

Indigenous leaders and members of their communities have been intimidated and harassed in reprisal for opposing the construction of a new wind farm in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec (Mexico). This happened right after an intense formal consultation meeting on the project, held on 4 December 2014, during which several residents requested more time in order to be able to properly analyse the project and its potential effects on their community's agriculture and land. Once the consultation meeting had finished, an altercation started. Another wind farm has already been built in the area, although it is not yet in operation. Other indigenous communities and local organisations which have protested against the construction of wind farms in the area have suffered threats and attacks in the past.

In the light of the EU-Mexico Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement, which contains an important clause on human rights, will the EU demand that the Mexican authorities ensure that any consultation process on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec is carried out in accordance with international standards and aligned with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, on the basis of the free, prior and informed consent of all members of the indigenous communities affected, and that such processes include reliable, accurate and accessible information on the impact of the project?

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