

**Question for written answer E-002979/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)**

Subject:     Difficult conditions for Venezuelan students in Europe

Venezuelan students studying abroad are today living in difficult conditions. Since 2003, the Venezuelan government has not allowed its citizens to change their bolivars into euros, and students living abroad do not have access to current accounts in their native country. Young people studying on degree and postgraduate courses in Europe are being tied into approval by the Centro Nacional de Comercio Exterior Venezolano (Venezuelan National Centre for Foreign Trade) (Cencoex) and payment of university tuition fees is also dependent on this.

There are approximately 4 000 Venezuelan students in this situation in Spain alone. Now a global protest at all Venezuelan embassies across Europe has been announced for Thursday 26 February 2015.

On the basis of Article 14 of the European Union's Charter of Fundamental Rights which states that 'everyone has the right to education and access to vocational and continuing training', what measures will the Commission take to guarantee the right to education for all Venezuelan students holding a visa and regularly enrolled in European universities and training centres?