

**Question for written answer E-004771/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Barbara Matera (PPE)

Subject: VP/HR - Three journalists assassinated in Guatemala

On Friday, 13 March 2015, Guido Villatoro, a Guatemalan journalist, was assassinated in the town of Chicacao, Suchitepéquez department, Guatemala.

Just three days earlier, another two journalists were killed in the country. They were Danilo Lopez, 38, a reporter for Prensa Libre and Federico Salazar, 32, of Radio Nuevo Mundo, respectively vice-chairman and secretary of the Suchitepéquez Press Association.

López had been working on corruption cases involving civil servants in Suchitepéquez department.

According to a report by CERIGUA, the centre for information reporting on Guatemala, which supervises journalist protection, 27 journalists have been murdered in the country from 2000 to 2015.

1. In the light of what has happened, is the High Representative aware of the huge number of journalists assassinated in Guatemala?
2. How determined is she to persuade the Guatemalan Government of the need to reinforce the investigative and logistical support to the units investigating the assassinations of defenders of human rights?