

Question for written answer E-006072/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE) and Pavel Telička (ALDE)

Subject: VP/HR - Round of EU-Cuba negotiations with VP/HR Ms Mogherini

In the round of negotiations held in Cuba on 24 March 2015, the VP/HR and her Cuban counterparts agreed to speed up the negotiations and finalise an agreement on political dialogue and cooperation by the end of the year.

However, EU negotiator Christian Leffler revealed that 'differences of interpretation' had emerged during the talks, as the Cuban officials appealed for the EU to respect the 'principle of non-interference' in Cuba's internal affairs, clearly referring to its policies on human rights and political opposition.

1. Does the VP/HR agree that progress in the negotiations on future political and economic cooperation between the EU and Cuba must be conditional upon the Cuban Government's respect for human rights and democracy?
2. Did the VP/HR ask for the release of all political prisoners and human rights activists as a non-negotiable condition for continuing the discussions with the Castro regime during the March negotiations in La Havana?