

**Question for written answer E-007878/2015  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - Long-term imprisonment of Leonard Peltier

Leonard Peltier is a native American and member of the American Indian Movement. He has been in prison for 38 years after receiving two life sentences for killing two FBI agents, although there was no certain evidence of his guilt.

The European Parliament has passed two motions in support of Peltier (in 1994 and 1999). Some Member States have pleaded for him individually, but the EU has undertaken no initiative, as the Commission's reply to a question in February 2000 confirms. Prompted partly by Peltier's poor health, the Commission's departments began corresponding with the US authorities in February 1999. A question in August 2007 requested feedback on this.

In its answers to both questions, the Commission stated that it could see no legal reasons for intervening itself.

Peltier is a man who was committed to defending the rights of indigenous peoples. His imprisonment is clearly politically motivated and he is in fragile health.

In the light of the above, how does the High Representative plan to raise the matter with the USA, to secure Peltier's release, in line with the EU approaches to human rights activists?