Question for written answer E-009267/2015 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Assassination in an indigenous reservation (Colombia)

Farming families living in the Cañamomo y Lomaprieta indigenous reservation in Colombia rely on artisanal mining for additional support. However, the sector is now coming under threat owing to pressure from the multinational AngloGold Ashanti, which is seeking to develop its operations in that region.

Against this background, communities in the region have been left greatly dismayed following the assassination of Fernando Salazar Calvo, who was president of La Unión Miners' Association and a spokesperson for the Miners' Association of the Cañamomo y Lomaprieta Indigenous Reservation (ASOMICAR) in Riosucio and Supía.

Mr Salazar was a defender of indigenous miners' rights, which he fought hard to maintain. The loss of this key figure works in AngloGold Ashanti's favour, as the multinational continues to put pressure on those living in the indigenous reservation.

- 1. Does the Vice-President plan on seeking an explanation from the Colombian Government and from AngloGold Ashanti with regard to their actions?
- 2. As nine aspects of the EU's Association Agreement with Colombia have been infringed in the area of human rights, and as the rights of law-abiding indigenous people have also been violated, does the Vice-President think that the points in the above Agreement should be reviewed?

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