

**Question for written answer E-013271/2015  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - International observation of parliamentary elections in Venezuela

On 6 December 2015, parliamentary elections will be held in Venezuela, amid increasing political tensions and an economic and social crisis.

Many prominent people across Latin America and in Europe have recently stated that they would be in favour of international observation for the elections, in which an EU election observation mission (including, of course, a number of MEPs) could take part. Many MEPs are also in favour, as such a mission could help 'to secure the holding of free and fair parliamentary elections in a fully inclusive process with the participation of all democratic actors', as the European Parliament called for in its resolution of 12 March 2015.

What view does the High Representative take about such a mission being sent? Since a European External Action Service spokesperson stated, on 25 June 2015, that 'the EU stands ready to explore with the National Electoral Council, as well as UNASUR and the OAS, how we can best contribute to inclusive, credible and transparent elections', what steps has the High Representative taken with the National Electoral Council, UNASUR and other international organisations to pave the way for an election observation or 'election support' mission, including a number of MEPs, to be sent to Venezuela?