

Question for written answer E-014375/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Journalist killings in Honduras

Honduras is the most violent country in Latin America and its capital city, Tegucigalpa, has one of the highest levels of violence in the world. Atrocities and crime have been on the rise since the constitutional president, José Manuel Zelaya, was overthrown on 28 June 2009; the World Health Organization has said that around 20 people are killed every day.

Rights to freedom of expression and information are being increasingly curtailed, the most distressing manifestation of which has been the killing of reporters. National and international organisations investigating cases of violence against journalists have calculated that a total of 60 correspondents have been murdered since the presidential coup.

These figures are not befitting of a democratic state and suggest that the Honduran Government is doing nothing to ensure adequate protection for journalists, whose work plays a vital role in any free society.

Is the High Representative aware of this situation of journalists being taken hostage and killed?

Since this situation contravenes the democratic principles enshrined in the EU-Central America Association Agreement, is the EU asking Honduras to implement solutions within the framework of the political dialogue?