

**Question for written answer E-000843/2016**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: VP/HR - Kurds detained in Spain

Several people were detained in Spain on Wednesday, 27 January 2016 on suspicion of belonging to a terrorist organisation because they were linked to the Democratic Union Party (PYD) and People's Protection Units (YPG) in Syria, organisations that the EU, as far as I am aware, does not consider terrorist organisations. Indeed, the Co-Chair of the PYD, Saleh Muslim, attended an international conference in the European Parliament last week, and his trip even included a meeting with President Hollande. Both the YPG and the PYD are involved in the Syrian peace talks.

The mistake stems from information provided to the Spanish police by Turkey, which deliberately confuses these two organisations with the PKK.

Do the YPG and the PYD figure on the EU's list of terrorist organisations? If not, does the Vice-President/High Representative take the view that links to the YPG and the PYD should not be used as a reason for detaining people? Is the Turkish government aware of the EU's position on this matter?