

**Question for written answer E-006435/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Tania González Peñas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Persecution of activists in Colombia

Allegations of threats and attacks against human rights defenders by paramilitary groups persist.

The situation facing social organisations in the city of Barrancabermeja in Santander department is particularly alarming.

On 18 July, Iván Madero, the president of the Regional Corporation for the Defence of Human Rights (Credhos), received a phone call warning him that he had 48 hours to leave the country. The same threat was repeated minutes later in a call to the head office of Credhos and in a text message. No progress has been made in the investigation of these incidents or any of the other complaints previously lodged by Madero and other members of Credhos. It should be noted that the former secretary of Credhos, David Ravelo, has been in prison since 2010 following a trial marked by a lack of guarantees and serious breaches of due process.

1. Is the EU delegation aware of these allegations and the situation faced by social organisations in Barrancabermeja? Is it considering visiting the offices of Credhos?
2. With a view to providing guarantees for human rights defenders, what human rights monitoring mechanisms will be implemented once the FARC-EP agreements have been signed?