

**Question for written answer E-007876/2016
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Francisco Assis (S&D)**

Subject: VP/HR - Refusal of EU ambassador in Cuba to meet Sakharov Prize-winner Guillermo Fariñas

At the joint hearing of the AFET and DROI committees on the human rights situation in Cuba on 2 October 2016, the winner of the 2010 Sakharov Prize, Guillermo Fariñas, told Members that the head of the EU Delegation in Cuba, H.E. Herman Portocarero, has refused his requests for a meeting.

What is the explanation for this behaviour by the EU's principal representative in Cuba towards a Sakharov Prize-winner who is admired and respected by democrats and human rights activists around the world?