

**Question for written answer E-008533/2016
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - Arbitrary detentions in Argentina: the case of Milagro Sala

Milagro Sala, the Argentine indigenous political and social activist and leader of the Tupac Amaru Neighbourhood Association – affiliated to the Association of State Workers (CTA) – and elected member of Parlasur since November 2015, was arrested on Saturday 16 January 2016, shortly after the Macri government entered into office, and has been held in prison ever since. The United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention recently stated that ‘the detention of Milagro Sala is arbitrary’ and ‘a result of her exercising of her human rights.’

In view of the above and given the EU’s close relations with Argentina and the ongoing negotiations for a free-trade agreement (FTA) with Mercosur,

1. What practical steps will the EU take with the Argentine Government to secure the immediate release of Milagro Sala?
2. Will the EU suspend negotiations on the FTA with Mercosur until such time as the current government genuinely upholds human rights?