

Question for written answer E-001368/2017
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - The human rights situation in Colombia following the signing of the peace agreement

In my recent visit to Colombia as part of the Asturias human rights monitoring delegation, I was able to see that although the FARC is keeping to its side of the agreement, with members moving to transition areas, the government is not providing appropriate living conditions in order for the people concerned to readjust to civilian life.

There have been reports of leaders and human rights defenders being murdered. In 2016 at least 140 people were reported to have been killed by paramilitaries. This year has seen more violence and there does not seem to be any willingness to dissolve these groups, which are moving into the areas that the FARC has left.

The delegation visited the prison in Ibagué, in which FARC and ELN prisoners are being held. We could see that the human rights of all the prisoners there were being violated (with regard to health, food, a lack of drinking water, and invasive body searches). This amounts to cruel and inhuman treatment.

1. What will the EU do to urge the Colombian Government to make sure that the peace agreements are implemented in a swifter and more thoroughgoing manner, and to guarantee that the conditions are in place to ensure compliance with them?
2. Given that the peace process is hanging in the balance, will the EU be taking any steps to draw attention to human rights violations and the spread of paramilitary groups?