

Question for written answer E-001369/2017
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Dialogue in Venezuela

President Nicolás Maduro has once again stated publicly that he continues to be willing to engage in dialogue, as he has been from the outset.

This week he has held a number of meetings in an attempt to kick-start talks with the opposition. He has met Aldo Giordano, a representative of the Catholic Church and envoy of Pope Francis, as well as leaders of the Jewish community in Venezuela.

Following President Maduro's repeated calls for peace talks, the Venezuelan opposition finally agreed to come to the negotiating table in October 2016. Once a roadmap had been established, however, the talks broke down.

1. What strategy will the EU be following in order to provide more specific, practical backing for the dialogue that the Venezuelan Government has pushed for, alongside Unasur and the Vatican?
2. What are the next steps that the EU is going to press for with a view to addressing the situation in Venezuela?