

Question for written answer E-005022/2017
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Growing instability and pro-Opposition violence in Venezuela

Extremist pro-Opposition groups, which would be classified as terrorist groups in Europe, have been carrying out violent acts in Venezuela since April 2017: helicopter attacks and explosives in Venezuela's Supreme Court and the Ministry of the Interior, assaults on military bases, killings of security guards and police officers, lynching of Government supporters, and they have also burnt eight people alive. Those acts have been incited by the Opposition and resulted in more than 110 deaths (9 attributed to the country's security forces)

The terrorists have destroyed public and private goods and property, public transport, hospitals, schools and homes, and they have used firearms and explosives. The leaders of the Opposition have not condemned those acts, though; instead they are calling for more demonstrations.

The Democratic Unity Roundtable (DUR) held a 'plebiscite' on 16 July 2017 to vote against the Constituent Assembly, to refuse to recognise the National Assembly's contempt and to call for an overhaul of the public authorities and the formation of a new government. That procedure is illegal and is not covered by law or the Constitution.

1. What is the EU's position now that the situation in Venezuela has deteriorated and violence stirred by the Opposition is on the rise? Will it condemn those acts?
2. Will the EU support and/or recognise the results of an illegal plebiscite organised by the Opposition?