

**Question for written answer E-005274/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Dominique Martin (ENF)

Subject: Breaches of freedom of association and trade union rights in El Salvador and at the Commission

In April 2008, the Commission opened an investigation into the protection of freedom of association and trade union rights in El Salvador under Article 18(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 980/2005.

- In the light of the criteria employed in conducting the 2008 investigation, does the Commission now regard the protection of freedom of association and trade union rights in El Salvador as satisfactory?
- Has the Commission opened investigations into the protection of freedom of association and trade union rights in other countries in 2017?
- Why is the Commission focusing on the situation of trade unions in El Salvador at a time when (1) trade unions representing staff at the Commission are complaining about a lack of social dialogue, and (2) the Commission is urging France to impose ceilings on the compensation awarded by industrial tribunals?