

**Question for written answer E-007355/2017  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Barbara Matera (PPE)**

Subject: VP/HR - Security of avocado producers in Mexico

Tancitaro (Mexico), the world capital of avocado production, has recently become extremely dangerous, especially in the last five years, owing to increased insecurity with regard to the lives of farmers and producers of the 'green gold', created by the Mexican drug cartels. A national attorney-general's report has stated that 'the avocado producers were imposed a quota and those that resisted, or the families of those, were kidnapped or murdered as pressure until they ceded'.<sup>1</sup>

Can the High Representative state:

1. whether the EEAS has an inclusive and far-reaching approach to dealing with matters related to the drug cartels in Mexico;
2. how we could help the Mexican Government address this issue and ensure greater security for farmers and their families?

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<sup>1</sup> 'Mexican cartels extorting avocado producers raises price of guacamole, report says' - Fox News, accessed 30 November 2017.