

**Question for written answer E-007732/2017  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Presence of paramilitaries in the Paz de San José de Apartadó Peace Community

On 4 December 2017, Ángel Vadillo Espino, the mayor of Albuquerque (Extremadura, Spain), which has been twinned with the Paz de San José de Apartadó Peace Community in Colombia since 2006, received serious complaints warning of the presence of paramilitaries in the Peace Community, and in particular of death threats against community members Gildardo Tuberquia and Esteban Guisao.

On 26 June, the IACHR called for ‘the State [to] maintain whatever measures it may have adopted and immediately provide for those that prove necessary to effectively protect the life and personal integrity of members of the San José de Apartadó Peace Community’. In 2017, over 180 social leaders, indigenous people, people of African descent and land claimants were killed. The ongoing violence in the Colombian countryside is reminiscent of the situation in the nineties, despite the peace agreements.

1. What action will the EU take to urge the Colombian authorities to protect all rural communities facing paramilitary violence?
2. What is the EU's position vis-à-vis the Colombian Government's lack of action against these death threats in San José de Apartadó?