

**Question for written answer E-001515/2018  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Crackdown against protests by local residents in the Platform for an Underground Railway, Murcia

The people of Murcia have been demonstrating for years for the stretch of the high-speed train line through the town to be buried underground. Since there is no updated environmental impact report for the current project undertaking these works, they addressed petitions No 2582/2014 and 0019/2015 to the Committee on Petitions, which concluded that the environmental impact assessment needed to be updated before work could begin.

However, the Committee's recommendations are being flouted and work is ongoing, in spite of the daily complaints of Murcia's people.

Despite the peaceful nature of the protests, the demonstrators are being punished on a daily basis with a disproportionate number of fines.

In view of the seriousness of the events, Amnesty International has already opened an investigation to determine whether this constitutes repression against this residents' movement.

Considering that the right to peaceful demonstration is a human right which, as part of the freedoms of assembly and expression, represents a form of civic engagement to demand and defend rights, what does the Commission intend to do in response to the possible breach of this right by the Government of Murcia?