Question for written answer E-003439/2018 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Impunity for human rights violations in Colombia

Human rights violations continue with impunity in Colombia. Also murders, particularly among territorial ethnic communities.

On 17 April 2018, an illegal armed group seized three members of the Afro-Colombian River Naya Community Council, in an area traditionally affected by conflict from groups seeking to control the area. A few days later another member of the Council disappeared during a humanitarian mission sponsored by the Ombudsman's Office and the Colombian Human Rights Advocate. This followed a meeting with Government representatives on the Inter-American Commission's precautionary measures in Bogota only a few days earlier. More than forty days later, the Government has not provided information on the whereabouts of the missing persons.

- 1) Is the EU delegation aware of the situation facing the Naya River communities, and is it requesting information from the Colombian State on the search for the missing persons?
- 2) In compliance with EU guidelines, is the Commission planning to make an on-site visit to assess the situation and follow it up within the framework of the Human Rights Group?
- 3) How can the EU make it easier for NGO advocates to continue their support work and on-site verifications, in collaboration with the Colombian authorities?

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