

**Question for written answer E-005376/2018
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - Expulsion of the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala

On 31 August 2018, Jimmy Morales, the president of Guatemala, announced that the UN-backed International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG) was going to be expelled from the country. The commission, which was set up to combat corruption and impunity, has been in the country since 2006.

The president's decision comes at a time when he himself is being investigated by the CICIG for illegal campaign financing and corruption.

In its resolution of 16 February 2017 on Guatemala¹, the European Parliament declared that it supported the important work of the CICIG.

The rule of law and democracy are at the heart of the EU's cooperation with Guatemala, and so the CICIG's expulsion is a bad sign: it runs contrary to international efforts to promote sustainable social development.

1. Given that the EU has made clear how important it considers the CICIG's work to be, what effective action is the EU taking to bring pressure to bear on the Guatemalan Government in this respect?
2. How is the EU's development aid helping strengthen the rule of law in Guatemala?
3. To what extent will the CICIG's expulsion have an adverse impact with regard to the strengthening of the rule of law in Guatemala?

¹ P8_TA(2017)0045.