

**Question for written answer E-000703/2019
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Anne-Marie Mineur (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Human rights and democratic clause in the EU-Mexico global agreement

Since the entry into force of the EU-Mexico Global Agreement, the human rights and democratic clause contained in the agreement has never been applied, despite the very poor and deteriorating human rights situation in Mexico. Recently, the EU ambassador to Mexico, Klaus Rudischhauser, expressed the view that the EU does not believe in sanctions, but in dialogue and cooperation¹. His statements put in question the political will of the EU to address human rights violations through international trade agreements.

1. Is it correct that the EU ambassador to Mexico stated that the EU does not believe in sanctions in the field of human rights?
2. Why has the human rights and democratic clause never been applied, despite the alarming human rights situation in Mexico and the countless breaches of human rights and democracy that have taken place in Mexico since 2000?
3. Does the VP/HR think it is in line with the principles of her vision 'Trade for all' that investors' rights in trade agreements are deeply enshrined in numerous ways, while their obligations are only referred to in noncommittal statements, or clauses that are never applied?

¹ CE Noticias Financieras English (23 December 2018): 'The EU rules out sanctioning Mexico on human rights'