

**Question for written answer P-009347/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

**Juan Carlos Girauta Vidal (ALDE), Javier Nart (ALDE), Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)
and Enrique Calvet Chambon (ALDE)**

Subject: VP/HR - Hunger strikes in Venezuela

A number of political prisoners in Venezuela are staging a hunger strike to protest against the Maduro government's policy of repressing dissidence. They include Leopoldo López and Daniel Ceballos. After being on hunger strike for 16 days, Daniel Ceballos's condition is becoming critical. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has attempted to intercede in his favour, and it is hoped that the Pope will also take steps with a view to mediation.

Would the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy consider it appropriate to add her own efforts to those of other international figures, with a view to ensuring that there are no political prisoners in Venezuela and thereby eliminating the reason that has led some of them to start a hunger strike?

What steps will she take to achieve this aim?