

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4391/07

by Raül Romeva i Rueda (Verts/ALE) and Milan Horáček (Verts/ALE)
to the Council

Subject: Sale of military aircraft by Czech Republic to Bolivia; violation of EU code of conduct

The Czech Republic and Bolivia are currently negotiating for the sale of 10 military training aircraft (AERO L-159A). The aircraft are part of a military surplus that the Czech armed forces hope to sell off after dissolution of the Czechoslovakian army.

1. Has this issue been discussed in the COARM (EU working party on arms)?
2. Has the Czech Government explained to the other EU Member States how it believes such a sale to be in harmony with the EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports in the perspective of the bad human rights situation in Bolivia?
3. What action will the Council to prevent future so called 'military surplus sales' being conducted with countries which are prone to armed conflict and where human rights are violated on a daily basis?
4. What efforts will the Council undertake to convince the Czech Government to issue a denial of this particular deal with Bolivia?