

**Question for written answer E-001523/2019
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - Attacks against indigenous Amazonian peoples and environmentalists spiralling in Brazil

Since the election of Bolsonaro as President of Brazil on 28 October 2018, attacks against the indigenous peoples of the Amazon and environmentalists have soared. An emblematic case is that of Rosane Santiago Silveira, an environmental activist, who was brutally tortured and killed in the town of Nova Viçosa, on 29 January 2019, for having defended the Barra Velha reserve from eucalyptus plantation encroachment. In addition, land-grabbing of the indigenous peoples' protected land by farmers, as denounced by various organisations before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights on 13 February 2019 in Sucre (Bolivia), is on the rise. Lastly, on 2 January 2019, the President issued an executive order separating the FUNAI from the Ministry of Justice and assigning some of the jurisdiction over the lands of indigenous peoples to the Ministry of Agriculture. This is a step backwards, as the Ministry of Agriculture, dominated by agribusiness interests, advocates the expansion of arable land for export purposes, thereby implicitly supporting land-grabbing. As highlighted by UN Special Rapporteur Tauli-Corpuz, the risk is that of the disappearance or genocide of the indigenous peoples of the Amazon.

What is the High Representative's view of the above-mentioned facts and what specific diplomatic initiatives does she intend to take in order to raise the awareness of the Brazilian Government and combat this phenomenon?