

**Question for written answer E-004293/2019**

**to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy**

Rule 138

**José Ramón Bauzá Díaz (Renew)**

**Subject:** Worsening of the political and social crisis in Nicaragua

On 19 November, the OAS High Level Commission on Nicaragua published its report on the political and social crisis in the country, in which it states that 'Nicaragua is experiencing a critical human rights situation that urgently demands the attention of the Inter-American community and the world at large.' The OAS also demanded urgent institutional reforms in the country to bring an end to the subordination of state institutions for control by Ortega y Murillo, as well as to the ongoing human rights violations.

Despite two European Parliament resolutions and the adoption by the Council of a legal framework for imposing individual sanctions, the situation in Nicaragua continues to worsen. According to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, since 2018 more than 300 people have lost their lives and many more have been arrested, including the Belgian citizen Amaya Eva Coppens.

In view of the limited impact that action by the European Union has had so far:

What steps does the High Representative and the European External Action Service envisage taking in order to finally force an end to the political and social crisis in Nicaragua?