

Question for written answer E-003854/2020

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

Rule 138

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Subject: Approval of the Hong Kong security law

At dawn it was reported that China's Parliament had approved the controversial Hong Kong security law. In theory the law criminalises subversion, terrorism or foreign interference in Hong Kong, yet in practice it will allow China to suppress dissent and silence critics in the autonomous region.

This new law from Beijing is in breach of Article 23 of Hong Kong Basic Law, which stipulates that only the region itself may establish a security law, and is a clear violation of the 'One country, two systems' principle that has governed relations between China and the former British colony since 1997.

Given the serious implications of today's law on freedom in Hong Kong and the clear violation of the terms of its independence:

1. In the opinion of the VP/HR and the European External Action Service, does China still respect the 'One country, two systems' principle?
2. What measures are planned in response to China's approval of the security law?
3. How will this decision affect future relations between the EU and the People's Republic of China?