Question for written answer E-005223/2020
to the Commission
Rule 138
Jordi Cañas (Renew), Dita Charanzová (Renew)

Subject: Start of negotiations with Nicolás Maduro’s régime by a delegation of the European External Action Service sent to Caracas

The Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs, Josep Borrell, has begun negotiations with Nicolás Maduro’s régime – one accused of genocide – supposedly in order to come to an agreement on postponing the legislative elections announced for December this year in exchange for guaranteeing that a European Union election observation mission would be deployed.

A recent United Nations report¹ accused Nicolas Maduro’s régime of ‘crimes against humanity’, documenting extensively the extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, arbitrary detentions and torture it has perpetrated, and stating that the government itself ‘gave orders, coordinated activities and supplied resources in furtherance of the plans and policies under which the crimes were committed’.

In view of what can only be described as a whitewashing of the repressive policies, including genocide, of Nicolas Maduro’s illegitimate régime:

1. Can the Commission confirm whether Ms von der Leyen has charged the High Representative with starting these negotiations on behalf of the Commission?

2. Does this mean that the Commission is going to go against the European Parliament’s position, expressed in 13 different resolutions to date, that Nicolás Maduro’s illegitimate régime should not be recognised?