

**Question for written answer E-002468/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Demonstrations and human rights in Colombia

On 28 April a national strike took place in Colombia and demonstrations spread throughout the country. The Colombian government has responded to these demonstrations with disproportionate force that has led to at least 24 dead (18 out of whom were shot by police officers), over 800 injured and more than 1 000 arrested. In 2019 Spain sold military equipment worth EUR 8.8 million, which has been used against demonstrators.

More than 400 human rights defenders have been killed in Colombia since the beginning of the peace process in 2016, which is the highest death rate for human rights defenders in Latin America, and more than 27 000 people have been internally displaced this year alone, which represents a 177 % increase compared to the same period last year.

1. Does the Commission plan to publicly condemn the repression being practised by the Colombian government?
2. Has the Commission called on the Colombian government to put an end to police violence and to prosecute the police officers that fired live ammunition at demonstrators?
3. Has the Commission considered calling on the Spanish government to stop arms sales to Colombia because of its use for internal repression, in accordance with Common Position 2008/944/PESC?