

Question for written answer E-005010/2021

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

Rule 138

Idoia Villanueva Ruiz (The Left)

Subject: Use of Colombia's General Budget Law to amend the Electoral Guarantees Law

In Colombia, an amendment suspending the first subsection of Article 38 of Law 996 of 2005 (the Electoral Guarantees Law) has been introduced through the draft law on the nation's general budget, now adopted by both Congress and the Senate. As a result, national and regional bodies may sign administrative and inter-administrative agreements on the deployment of public resources. Not only was the procedure used for this amendment most probably unconstitutional, but the amendment itself encroaches upon democratic guarantees for elections due to be held in 2022.

1. What is the position of the Vice-President / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on this amendment to the Guarantees Law that has been introduced through the law on the nation's general budget?
2. What impact does he envisage this amendment having on democratic guarantees in the elections being held next year in Colombia?
3. What steps will he take to ensure that in these elections all political forces and electors are able to benefit from the democratic guarantees?