Question for written answer E-005299/2021

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: Repression of the Mapuche people in Chile

In previous replies (E-004567/2020 and E-006570/2020), the Commission referred to a range of contacts, démarches and programmes to strengthen democratic principles in Chile. One of these principles is the respect for differences and the defence of the political rights of minorities. The Mapuche people are one such minority.

A state of emergency has been in force in the Araucanía region for a month now, supposedly in order to combat 'terrorism'. Armed interventions by the army have already led to the death of a young Mapuche, Yordan Llempi Machacan, and to the shooting and wounding of others under as yet unexplained circumstances.

The militarisation of the region – in the middle of the election campaign – has inter alia had a negative impact on freedom of movement, with the army carrying out roadside checks with armoured vehicles, and has resulted in a climate where protests and demonstrations by the Mapuche in defence of their collective rights, such as that to their ancestral common lands, are being criminalised.

What steps is the European Union taking to ensure that the Chilean Government puts an end to this policy of military and police repression of the Mapuche people and ushers in a process of dialogue and negotiation?