

Question for written answer E-000352/2022

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

Rule 138

Pierfrancesco Majorino (S&D)

Subject: Piecing together the truth of Luca Ventre's death

On 1 January 2021, the Italian businessman Luca Ventre died at the Italian Embassy in Montevideo, Uruguay, in as yet unexplained circumstances.

From the reconstructions based on security footage, it appears that Luca Ventre, having had no reply on the intercomm, entered the Embassy's courtyard by climbing over the gate but without any obvious menacing intent. After some exchanges with two private embassy security staff, he attempted to leave but they prevented him from doing so and pinned him to the ground for 37 minutes with an arm around the neck. The police then took him to the hospital where he died.

According to the first autopsy – performed in Uruguay – the cause of death was drug-related, whereas the Italian autopsy revealed evidence compatible with a prolonged constriction of the neck.

The Italian Government has recently called for the judiciaries of both countries to cooperate effectively in the ongoing investigation.

Will the HR/VP support the Italian Government in its efforts to ensure and facilitate maximum cooperation in the investigations?