

Question for written answer E-000702/2022

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

Rule 138

Laura Huhtasaari (ID)

Subject: Actions of the Canadian Government in the convoy protest

On several occasions the EU has condemned human rights violations in various countries. The European Commission has also issued strongly worded admonitions to Hungary and Poland, stating that the principle of the rule of law has been placed in jeopardy. In December 2021 the infringement procedure was once again initiated against Poland. To the surprise of many, however, the EU failed at the time to condemn the violence exercised by the police of Spain, an EU Member State, against voters in Catalonia.

In 2020 Canada's Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, defended the demonstrations organised in Delhi, in which a bridge was blocked, and defended the right to peaceful protest. Does the Commission or the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy intend to condemn the measures used by Canada against peaceful protest in the Canadian convoy demonstration, and what is the EU's position on the Canadian Government's actions against peaceful protest? Canada has decided, inter alia, to freeze the bank accounts of persons taking part in the demonstrations, and has threatened to arrest peaceful demonstrators.