

Question for written answer E-000955/2022

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: Failure to guarantee journalists' democratic rights in Mexico

In 2022, at least seven journalists were murdered in the line of duty in Mexico for investigating corruption amongst the political leadership or for criticising the government.

Reporters without Borders considers Mexico to be one of the most dangerous countries in the world for journalists to work in. Since 2019 there have been over one thousand attacks on journalists, with 45 having been murdered.¹

López Obrador's government has not only neglected to take appropriate measures to protect journalists, it also constantly criticises journalists, therefore actively contributing to the harassment that they face.

Freedom of expression and information are embedded in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, while democracy and human rights clauses constitute an essential part of the EU-Mexico Global Agreement (2000) and its subsequent modernisation (2020). Given the above:

1. Does the Commission view Mexico's failure to protect journalists, and indeed the President's own active contribution to their persecution and harassment, as being in clear breach of the democracy clause of the 2000 Global Agreement and its subsequent modernisation?
2. What actions has the Commission and/or the EEAS taken regarding the Mexican authorities in light of these violations of human rights and freedom of the press?

¹ Mexico ranks 143rd of the 180 countries evaluated. <https://rsf.org/en/ranking/2021>