

Question for written answer E-001096/2022

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

Rule 138

Leopoldo López Gil (PPE)

Subject: Military political prisoners with dual nationality in Venezuela

Nicolás Maduro is holding 190 military personnel in prison for political reasons, according to the NGO Justicia Venezolana. Many of them have been arbitrarily detained, their detention conditions and the medical care they receive are inadequate, they are denied minimum procedural safeguards, and irregularities in their trials mean they remain in prison for longer than provided for by law, in many cases even after having received release slips. In short, they are subject to a continuous violation of their rights.

There are currently four military personnel in Venezuela who are nationals of an EU Member State: Juan Francisco Rodriguez Dos Ramos (Portuguese), Carlos Gustavo Macsotay Rauseo (Hungarian), Adrián Leonardo de Gouveia de Sosa (Portuguese) and Juan Carlos Marrufo (Italian).

In light of the above:

1. What action is the EU Delegation in Caracas taking to ensure the protection of human rights and to release these European citizens, who are being unfairly held in detention?
2. Could the External Action Service establish a protocol for taking action to urge the Venezuelan Government to release these prisoners?