

Question for written answer E-003801/2022

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: Equatorial Guinea elections of Sunday 20 November 2022

On Sunday 20 November 2022, Equatorial Guinea held elections in which Teodoro Obiang's Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea obtained 99.7% of the votes (67 196), while Convergence for Social Democracy received 0.2% (152). Thus, yet another step has been taken in the entrenchment of Africa's longest-ruling dictatorship: Mr Obiang took power in 1979. Once again, the country's elections have been dogged by allegations of repression and persecution of dissent and the opposition party has made public allegations of fraud.

In view of the above:

1. Has the Vice-President / High Representative expressed his views on the electoral process in Equatorial Guinea?
2. What strategy is the Vice-President / High Representative currently following in an effort to step up the protection of the Equatoguinean people's civil and political rights?
3. How is the EU ensuring that opposition party members persecuted or in danger of being persecuted are protected both in Equatorial Guinea and in exile?

Submitted: 23.11.2022