

Question for written answer E-000934/2023

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

Rule 138

Nacho Sánchez Amor (S&D)

Subject: One year on from the protests in Kazakhstan

A year has passed since the January 2022 demonstrations in Kazakhstan and the serious loss of life and other human rights violations that took place during and following the protests. Kazakh authorities have since undertaken their own investigations. According to official figures, the police have opened 4 623 different cases and 315 people are being investigated for 127 criminal charges. They have also implemented different political, constitutional and socio-economic reforms following the protests.

However, these criminal investigations do not offer a full and clear picture of the root causes of the events of January 2022, as criminal proceedings focus on specific or individual criminal cases. An international fact-finding mission could, therefore, be the most appropriate course of action.

1. Does the European External Action Service (EEAS) consider that the Kazakh authorities' investigations into the January protests provide a full picture of the aforementioned events and that these investigations have been independent and effective and is an international fact-finding investigation needed?
2. What steps has the EEAS taken to implement the actions outlined in Parliament's resolution on the situation in Kazakhstan¹, including its call for an international investigation into the protests?
3. How does the EEAS assess the reforms undertaken by the Kazakh authorities following the protests, in particular those concerning the human rights situation?

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¹ European Parliament resolution of 20 January 2022 on the situation in Kazakhstan. OJ C 336, 2.9.2022, p. 8.