

Question for written answer E-002419/2023

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: State of affairs in Guatemala following the June 2023 presidential elections

On 25 June 2023, Guatemala held the first stage of its presidential elections. Sandra Torres from the UNE party came first, and Bernardo Arevalo from the Movimiento Semilla second. Under the law in force in the country, a run-off has to be held to determine the winner. However, Guatemala is facing grave democratic uncertainty owing to the apparent attempt by some parties within the country to obstruct the run-off. As a result, many civil society associations that are active there but from other countries, including Italy, have labelled those efforts a 'technical coup'. The EU must act in every forum to ensure that the sovereignty and will of the Guatemalan people is upheld.

In the light of the above:

1. What steps will the EU take to bolster the activities of the European Election Observation Mission in Guatemala and to support the democratic process in Guatemala and the stability of its democratic institutions and society in the aftermath of the elections?
2. What steps will it take to provide proper support for the population and the civil society organisations that are active in Guatemala and are standing up for the rule of law and democracy there?

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