

**Question for written answer E-001056/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Miguel Urbán Crespo (The Left)

Subject: Urgent need to assess the continuation of the EU-Ecuador trade agreement in the light of systematic human rights and sovereignty violations

The serious human rights violations in Ecuador in recent years include prison massacres with more than 500 victims, political persecution of opponents, attacks on the freedom of the press, and even a recent attack on a foreign embassy – a flagrant breach of the most basic rules of international law – resulting in the detention of a political asylum-seeker. These events are in stark contrast to the objectives and values of the European Union (Articles 2 and 3 of the Treaty on European Union and EU Charter of Fundamental Rights) and the conditions laid down in the EU-Ecuador trade agreement.

The EU's failure to react to these events undermines its commitment to its own objectives and values, and the effectiveness of its human rights clauses at international level.

In view of this:

1. What specific measures is the Commission considering to ensure that Ecuador respects human rights and the national sovereignty of third countries, as laid down in international law and in the EU-Ecuador trade agreement?
2. Given the repeated violations of human rights and international law, is it considering activating the clause to temporarily suspend the trade agreement with Ecuador?

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