

**Question for written answer P-002260/2018  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Antonio López-Istúriz White (PPE)**

Subject: VP/HR - EU delegation in Nicaragua

The announcement that reforms would be made to Nicaragua's social security system has triggered demonstrations in the streets there which Daniel Ortega's Government is using violence and disproportionate measures to repress.

That brutality has resulted in at least 30 deaths.

In the light of the tragic events of recent days and taking into account that the EU Delegation to Nicaragua and to the Central American Integration System is based in Nicaragua:

1. What are the current priorities for development cooperation with Nicaragua for the 2014-2020 period, for which EUR 204 million has been budgeted?

As one of the Delegation's tasks is to work to uphold democratic values and human rights as fundamental and indispensable cornerstones of prosperity:

2. What steps are being taken to help to resolve this serious social and institutional crisis caused by a government which for years has been undermining democracy in Nicaragua, the country's constitution and the separation of powers there?

3. Will the VP/HR condemn the events and the drift by Daniel Ortega's regime towards authoritarianism and denial of freedoms?