

**Priority question for written answer P-002020/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Selection and participation criteria for the EU-LAC Days CSO/LA Forum

In its recent communication 'New agenda to strengthen EU's partnership with Latin America and the Caribbean', the Commission identified collaboration in the area of human rights as one of the priorities of the future partnership, underlining the importance of fostering the active participation of civil society and the creation of bi-regional networks. In this connection, and in anticipation of the EU-CELAC Summit, the Commission is making preparations for the EU-LAC Days CSO/LA Forum, as previously announced¹, which is set to take place from 13 to 14 July. In light of this,

1. What specific criteria have the Commission and its delegations used to select the organisations participating in this forum?
2. What measures is the Commission taking to prevent such civil society discussions from being co-opted by government-organised non-governmental organisations (GONGOs)?
3. How will it be ensured that the Forum's conclusions are integrated into the EU-CELAC Summit?

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¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2023-000206-ASW_EN.html