

Priority question for written answer P-000903/2024

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: Unlawful arrests of Vente Venezuela staffers

On 20 March members of the Criminal Investigation Corps of the Bolivarian National Police unlawfully arrested Dignora Hernández and Henry Alviarez.

Subsequently, the Maduro regime's Attorney General, Tarek William Saab, announced that the Public Prosecutor's Office had issued arrest warrants for seven members of María Corina Machado's campaign team: Oswaldo Bracho, Omar González, Humberto Villalobos, Claudia Macero, Fernando Martínez Mottola, Magalli Meda and Pedro Urruchurtu.

These actions are aimed at preventing the opposition from exercising its fundamental political rights, further undermining democracy and the rule of law in the country.

In response to a previous question (E-000279/2024)¹, the Vice-President / High Representative said that the EU's restrictive measures could be scaled up or reversed depending on the evolution of the situation in the country.

1. Given that the sanctions against members of the Venezuelan regime are due to expire in May and the repression in the country continues to escalate, will the Vice-President / High Representative propose an extension of these sanctions?
2. Given that some members of the chain of command responsible for this campaign of repression – Nicolás Maduro, Vladimir Padrino López and Romy González – are not on the list of those sanctioned by the EU, will it ask the next Foreign Affairs Council to include them?

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¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2024-000279-ASW_EN.html.