

Question for written answer E-003254/2020

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 138

Paulo Rangel (PPE), José Manuel Fernandes (PPE), Maria da Graça Carvalho (PPE), Lúcia Pereira (PPE), Cláudia Monteiro de Aguiar (PPE), Álvaro Amaro (PPE)

Subject: Worsening humanitarian and political situation in Venezuela

Venezuela continues to be mired in a political impasse between Nicolás Maduro's dictatorship and those who constantly strive for a return to democracy, the rule of law and respect for the dignity of the human person.

The economic and humanitarian situation is deteriorating while the regime is cracking down on and persecuting its political opponents with ever more brutality, expanding its criminal activities and repeatedly violating the most fundamental rights. We are continuing to witness the worsening of an unprecedented humanitarian and migratory crisis, exacerbated by the COVID-19 outbreak and by the collapse of essential public services.

In view of the above, we would like to ask:

1. What efforts has the EU, together with the international community and the parties to the conflict, made to help Venezuela's transition to democracy, which would allow it to hold free and fair elections?
2. What has the EU done to secure the immediate release of European citizens illegally detained under Maduro's dictatorship?