

Question for written answer E-000119/2024

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: The security crisis and violence which has broken out in Ecuador

Organised criminal organisations have declared war on the state in Ecuador. This week, armed gangs of drug traffickers stormed a television station and a university faculty, planted explosives in the streets, burned vehicles and kidnapped police and prison guards, after rioting in several detention centres. President Noboa reacted by declaring a state of emergency together with a curfew, imposing restrictions on the right of assembly and militarising the country's streets and prisons. He also declared that armed conflict has broken out in the country and, by decree, identified some twenty criminal organisations as enemies of the state.

In view of the above:

1. What action does the VP/HR intend to take with regard to the security crisis and violence which has broken out in Ecuador?
2. In particular, what measures will the VP/HR take to help improve the quality of democratic institutions, combat corruption and strengthen the rule of law in Ecuador?
3. What joint action has been taken to combat drug trafficking since the meeting of EU and Latin American interior ministers last September?

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