

**Question for written answer E-003655/2025/rev.1**

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

Rule 144

**Loucas Fourlas (PPE)**

Subject: The EU's failure to address show trials and human rights abuses in Azerbaijan

The EU promotes human rights and the rule of law, but appears reluctant to address political repression and show trials in Azerbaijan. Despite reports of political prisoners and serious human rights abuses, the EU's response appears to be constrained by economic and geopolitical interests.

Double standards seriously undermine the EU's credibility and prestige. By tolerating political repression, serious violations of international law, show trials and the recent arrests of political figures (Azerbaijani opposition leader Tofiq Yaqublu, anti-corruption activist and academic Gubad Ibadoghlu, Chair of the Republican Alternative Party Ilgar Mammadov, activist Ilhamiz Guliyev), the EU risks replacing principled diplomacy with interests.

In view of the above, can the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy answer the following:

1. How does the EU reconcile its declared commitment to human rights and the rule of law with its continued reluctance to put in place concrete measures against the ongoing political repression and show trials in Azerbaijan?
2. When will the EU use the same language towards energy-rich Azerbaijan as it does towards other States that commit serious violations?

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