

**Question for written answer E-002818/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Martin Günther (The Left)

Subject: Application of the ‘continuous, systematic and grave human rights violations’ standard under the EU-Colombia-Ecuador-Peru Trade Agreement

In its reply to written question E-003764/2025¹², the Commission stated that the suspension of the EU-Colombia-Ecuador-Peru Trade Agreement could be considered in cases of ‘continuous, systematic and grave human rights violations’, while concluding that this threshold had not been met in Ecuador.

Since then, reports from the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International have documented serious concerns, including prolonged states of emergency, increased militarisation of internal security operations and allegations of enforced disappearances, arbitrary detention, excessive use of force and extrajudicial killings.

The UN has raised concerns regarding the conduct of security operations. The IACHR has issued precautionary measures concerning alleged enforced disappearances during military operations under states of emergency. Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International have reported patterns of arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances and excessive use of force linked to the security strategy.

In this context:

1. What criteria does the Commission use to assess whether violations are ‘continuous, systematic and grave’, and what weight does the Commission attach to findings from UN bodies and the IACHR?
2. On what factual basis does the Commission maintain that the threshold has not been met in Ecuador?
3. What factual circumstances would lead the Commission to conclude that the threshold is met and to initiate consultations or consider suspension under the essential elements clause?

Submitted: 8.7.2026

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-003764-ASW_EN.html.

² https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-003764_EN.html.