

**Question for written answer E-003355/2026/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Indigenous peoples' rights and violence in the Interoceanic Corridor of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec

The Interoceanic Corridor of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec crosses indigenous territories where the EU is promoting investment through the Global Gateway¹.

Human rights organisations have denounced the lack of the free, prior and informed consent of communities in the isthmus, as well as the violence and militarisation against land and environmental defenders².

The UN has reaffirmed that indigenous peoples must be consulted and must give their free, prior and informed consent before projects affecting their lands, territories or resources are carried out.

Furthermore, there is documented evidence of attacks and killings targeting members of UCIZONI (the union of indigenous peoples of the northern isthmus) and other defenders³.

In the light of the above:

1. Does the Commission consider that international standards on free, prior and informed consent have been respected in relation to the Interoceanic Corridor of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec?
2. Has the Commission raised these concerns with the Mexican authorities in the political dialogue between the EU and Mexico and, furthermore, have any monitoring or oversight measures been put in place in the agreements ratified to ensure that human rights are respected in the region?

Submitted: 27.8.2026

¹ European Commission, Global Gateway – Green and Inclusive Development along the Tehuantepec Corridor in Mexico, https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/policies/global-gateway/green-and-inclusive-development-along-tehuantepec-corridor-mexico_en.

² Front Line Defenders, Mexico: National and international organisations demand an end to attacks against indigenous land defenders in the Isthmus of Oaxaca. Civil Observation Mission on the Interoceanic Corridor of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/en/statement-report/mexico-national-and-international-organisations-demand-end-attacks-against>.

³ Business & Human Rights Resource Centre, Three members of UCIZONI are killed and the organisation receives threats, <https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/latest-news/three-members-of-ucizoni-are-killed-and-the-organisation-receives-threats-incl-company-response/>. Mongabay, Interoceanic Train in Mexico: the violence faced by defenders, <https://es.mongabay.com/2025/02/tren-interoceanico-mexico-defensores-violencia/>.