

(English version)

Question for written answer E-002463/24
to the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Anthony Smith (The Left)
(7 November 2024)

Subject: Political situation in the Plurinational State of Bolivia

For almost a month now, Bolivia has been rocked by demonstrations and blockades concerning the organisation of the general elections scheduled for August 2025.

This political situation, which is already tense even though the elections are still some way off, raises questions about the conditions under which they will be held.

Democracy constitutes one of the core values of the European Union; it must be promoted beyond the Union's borders.

The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy is empowered, after consulting the Democracy Support and Election Coordination Group, to choose which countries to be afforded priority status for EU election observation missions.

Given the political situation in Bolivia, can the Vice-President/High Representative say:

1. Whether the Plurinational State of Bolivia has already asked the European Union to organise an electoral observation mission?
2. If no request has been made, whether the European Union intends to offer its expertise to the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia?

Submitted: 7.11.2024

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(7 January 2025)

The EU has been following the developments in Bolivia closely.

So far, the Bolivian electoral authorities have not yet extended an official invitation for a European Union electoral observation mission (EOM).

The EU has repeatedly demonstrated its commitment to the Bolivian people in its efforts to consolidate democracy and the rule of law, by deploying EOMs in 2006 and 2009, as well as Electoral Expert Missions in 2014, 2019 and 2020.

The EU remains committed to contributing to the holding of transparent, inclusive, credible and peaceful elections in Bolivia. In this regard, it is ready, if invited, to consider deploying an election mission for the 2025 general and presidential elections.
