

(English version)

Question for written answer E-000730/25
to the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Anthony Smith (The Left), Rima Hassan (The Left), Leila Chaibi (The Left)
(18 February 2025)

Subject: Protecting human rights in the Republic of Peru

In July 2024, Amnesty International published a report entitled ‘Who called the shots?’, which notes that Dina Boluarte could be held criminally responsible, as commander-in-chief of the Peruvian armed forces and national police, for the deaths that occurred during the protests between December 2022 and March 2023.

In a speech on 6 February 2025, Dina Boluarte was extremely critical of the activities of international NGOs, maintaining that they weaponise respect for human rights to ‘undermine the authority of the state and delegitimise the principle of order’.

In the same vein, the bill amending Law No 27692, considered by the Peruvian Congress in 2024, was aimed at significantly restricting the work of civil society organisations in receipt of international cooperation funds. The bill was shelved after diplomatic intervention by the US, which was concerned about the repercussions of such a text on democracy in Peru.

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

1. state her opinion on these government attacks on both democracy and respect for human rights in Peru;
2. condemn government attempts to block the work of international NGOs?

Submitted: 18.2.2025

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

The Commission is following closely developments in Peru related to human rights and democracy. The EU supports the ongoing investigation into the possible use of excessive force during the anti-government protests of late 2022/early 2023.

As regards the ongoing investigation into the possible use of excessive force during the anti-government protests of late 2022/early 2023, it is important that it be conducted independently, according to due process, and without undue delay, so that there can be proper accountability.

With regard to the law presented in June 2024, a revised version was approved by the Peruvian Congress on 12 March 2025. It is now going through the subsequent stages of the legislative process.

The Commission is assessing the practical implications together with other international partners and civil society and will engage with the relevant authorities with a view to mitigating possible negative impacts.

The Commission fully shares the view that independent civil society plays a crucial role in protecting democracy, promoting transparency and ensuring accountability. To this end, it is crucial civil society is able to operate in an enabling environment.
