

(English version)

Question for written answer E-000146/26

to the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Leoluca Orlando (Verts/ALE), Jussi Saramo (The Left), Sebastian Everding (The Left), Ondřej Dostál (NI), Benedetta Scuderi (Verts/ALE), Emma Fourreau (The Left), Sandro Gozi (Renew), Saskia Bricmont (Verts/ALE), Stine Bosse (Renew), Mimmo Lucano (The Left), Matjaž Nemec (S&D), Iliaria Salis (The Left), Ana Miranda Paz (Verts/ALE), Leila Chaibi (The Left), Fernando Barrena Arza (The Left), Maria Noichl (S&D), Jaume Asens Llodrà (Verts/ALE), Estelle Ceulemans (S&D), Alessandro Zan (S&D), Maria Ohisalo (Verts/ALE), Krzysztof Śmiszek (S&D), Elisabeth Grossmann (S&D), Vladimir Prebilič (Verts/ALE), Hanna Gedin (The Left)

(14 January 2026)

Subject: EU response to recent US statements concerning Colombia, Mexico, Cuba and Greenland, and respect for international law and treaties

In the aftermath of the United States' military intervention in Venezuela, public statements by US President Donald Trump and US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, including references to Colombia, Mexico, Cuba and Greenland, have raised serious concerns regarding respect for the UN Charter, international law and sovereignty.

Particular concern has been expressed among EU Member States regarding Trump's statements referring to Greenland as a territory of 'strategic necessity' for the United States, and which have been strongly criticised by Greenlandic and Danish Governments. Greenland's territory is part of the Kingdom of Denmark, Member State of the EU and NATO.

Article 42(7) of the Treaty on European Union provides that, in the event of armed aggression against a Member State, other EU Member States are obliged to provide aid by all the means in their power.

Therefore, the VP/HR is asked:

1. What measures does the Commission intend to take to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Colombia, Mexico, Cuba and Greenland?
2. How does the Commission assess the compatibility of recent US statements concerning Greenland with international law and EU treaty obligations?
3. Has the Commission considered discussing the possible application of Article 42(7) of the Treaty on European Union in the event of a threat to a Member State's territory?

Supporter ⁽¹⁾

Submitted: 14.1.2026

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission

(16 March 2026)

International law and the principles of territorial integrity and state sovereignty enshrined in the UN Charter must be upheld under all circumstances. Members of the UN Security Council have a particular responsibility to uphold these principles.

This message was underscored in the 4 January 2026 statement by the High Representative/Vice-President supported by 26 Member States ⁽¹⁾, as well as by President of the European Council and President of the Commission in their public reactions to the US intervention in Venezuela.

Territorial integrity, national sovereignty and inviolability of borders are universal principles. Greenland is an autonomous territory in the Kingdom of Denmark. Decisions about the future of Greenland are for Greenlanders and Danes to decide.

Mutual assistance in case of an armed attack on the territory of a Member State is an obligation within the Treaty on European Union (TEU).

In case of need, the mutual assistance in accordance with Article 42.7 of the TEU will be addressed, among Member States, ensuring a close coordination with key partners including NATO.

¹ This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Cristina Guarda (Verts/ALE).

⁽¹⁾ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/venezuela-statement-high-representative-aftermath-us-intervention-venezuela_en.