

(English version)

Question for written answer E-001006/26
to the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Irene Montero (The Left), Emma Fourreau (The Left), Marta Temido (S&D), Ana Miranda Paz (Verts/ALE)
(11 March 2026)

Subject: Support to women's organisations as peacebuilders and related legislation in Colombia

We are convinced of the importance of women's organisations in building a country with social justice and lasting peace. We welcome the adoption in Colombia of the Comprehensive Programme of Guarantees for Women Leaders and Human Rights Defenders and of Law 2364 of 2024, known as the 'ley de mujeres buscadoras' or Women Searchers Law.

This is a tangible, necessary and positive development. However, civil society organisations have identified significant challenges in terms of their effective implementation, as well as in their territorial approach.

The European Union has repeatedly expressed its commitment to the inclusion of the gender dimension of the Peace Agreement, to the protection of women human rights defenders and to the promotion of gender equality and women's rights in Colombia.

In light of this:

1. In its dialogues with Colombia, in what way does the Commission incorporate the monitoring and promotion of the implementation of these policies, including a territorial approach?
2. How does the EU plan to support women's organisations economically and politically to enhance their capacity to influence public policy, strengthen their organisations, and develop their own prevention and protection mechanisms?

Submitted: 11.3.2026

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(20 July 2026)

The EU remains committed to the full implementation of the 2016 Peace Agreement in Colombia, including its gender, ethnic, and territorial transformation chapters.

In its political and human rights dialogues with Colombia, the EU consistently raises the need for effective protection mechanisms for women leaders and defenders and the recognition and inclusion of women as peacebuilders.

The EU Delegation in Bogotá maintains regular contact with women's organisations, territorial platforms and civil society in conflict-affected and rural areas.

EU-funded projects support local women's organisations working on peacebuilding, political participation, transitional justice, prevention of gender-based violence, and protection of women defenders.

These projects promote the participation of women and their organisations in the development of the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, in the monitoring and implementation of the Comprehensive Programme of Guarantees for Women Leaders and Human Rights Defenders, and in monitoring the implementation of the gender dimension of the 2016 Peace Agreement.

Initiatives provide legal and psychosocial support to women victims of sexual and gender-based violence to access the Special Jurisdiction for Peace, provide organisational and economic support to women organisations, and strengthen self-protection mechanisms for women defenders, including women searching for the disappeared.

In line with EU's human rights defender's mechanism, ProtectDefenders.eu, and local response and protection initiatives, such as the campaign #DefendamosLavida, the EU will continue to support women's organisation in Colombia.
