

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001675/26
to the Commission
Jonas Sjöstedt (The Left), Hanna Gedin (The Left)
(23 April 2026)**

Subject: Imprisonment of Swedish publisher and EU citizen Gui Minhai by Chinese authorities

On 17 October 2015, Swedish publisher and EU citizen Gui Minhai was abducted by presumed Chinese intelligence agents in Thailand. China has since sentenced him to 10 years in prison for ‘illegally providing intelligence overseas’. Since his sentencing, he has been denied consular access — in violation of China’s obligations under the Vienna Convention — independent medical care and access to his family and legal representatives.

On 9 October 2025, a majority of MEPs in Parliament (546 out of 593) voted in favour of a resolution calling on the European External Action Service (EEAS), the Commission and the EU Member States to urge China to release Gui Minhai.

1. What dialogue have the Commission and the EEAS had with Chinese authorities regarding Parliament’s demand to release Gui Minhai?
2. What further actions are the Commission and the EEAS, together with the Member States, taking to ensure the release of Gui Minhai?

Submitted: 23.4.2026

**Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas on behalf of the European Commission
(28 May 2026)**

The EU has consistently voiced its grave concern about the human rights situation in China and resolutely called for the unconditional release of all those detained for peacefully exercising their fundamental freedoms and human rights.

At the 40th EU-China Human Rights Dialogue in June 2025, the European External Action Service (EEAS) raised the case of the Swedish citizen. The EEAS inquired about the political prisoner’s whereabouts and sought reassurances concerning the health conditions. The EEAS further called on the Chinese authorities to facilitate contacts between the prisoner and his family and to respect the right to consular assistance.

The EU will continue to call for the immediate and unconditional release of the Swedish prisoner and to raise the case at future meetings of the EU-China Human Rights Dialogue, in high-level meetings with Chinese interlocutors and in public statements, including at the UN Human Rights Council.
