

(English version)

Question for written answer E-003037/26
to the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Catarina Vieira (Verts/ALE)
(17 July 2026)

Subject: Case No 14.724 before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

In 1981, during El Salvador's armed conflict, Jorge Alberto Rodríguez Romero and Francisco Milton Romero Sequeira were forcibly disappeared by government forces. Forty-five years later, their family still awaits the truth about their fate and the return of their remains. The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights adopted Merits Report No 262/23, finding El Salvador responsible and issuing recommendations on investigation, search and reparation, with which the government has not complied. The case parallels Cuéllar Sandoval et al. (Inter-American Court, 2024), arising from the same conflict, and falls within the scope of the EU Guidelines on Enforced Disappearances.

1. Is the Commission/European External Action Service (EEAS) aware that El Salvador, an EU partner under the EU-Central America Association Agreement, has failed to comply with binding recommendations of an international human rights body regarding a 1981 enforced disappearance?
2. Will the Commission/EEAS raise this case with the Salvadoran authorities through its human rights dialogue and the EU-Central America Association Agreement, urge compliance and a genuine search for the victims' remains?
3. Will the Commission/EEAS encourage El Salvador to accede to the Inter-American Convention on Forced Disappearance of Persons?

Submitted: 17.7.2026

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

The EU regularly recalls, in its contacts with the Salvadoran authorities, the importance of cooperating fully with international and regional human rights mechanisms and of giving appropriate follow-up to their recommendations.

The EU will continue to raise human rights, the rule of law and accountability in its dialogue with El Salvador. The EU does not comment publicly on confidential exchanges concerning individual cases.

The EU fully respects the independence of the Inter-American human rights system and supports effective cooperation by States with its institutions.
