

(English version)

Priority question for written answer P-000001/26
to the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Irene Montero (The Left), Isabel Serra Sánchez (The Left)
(3 January 2026)

Subject: US bombardment of Venezuela, violation of international law and the EU's response

In the early hours of 3 January 2026, the United States bombed civilian and military areas of Venezuela, including Caracas, Miranda, Aragua and La Guaira. Donald Trump took responsibility for the operation. Reports indicate that the Venezuelan President, Nicolás Maduro, was kidnapped during the strikes — which is completely unacceptable.

Those actions seriously violate Articles 1 and 2 of the UN Charter, which prohibit the use of force and uphold sovereignty and the peaceful settlement of disputes. The attack, including the alleged kidnapping of a head of state, threatens international peace and strengthens a dangerous dynamic of militarisation.

The EU, being committed to multilateralism and international law, cannot remain on the sidelines.

1. What action will the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs take to ensure peace in Venezuela and respect its sovereignty in the face of this illegal attack, as well as to ensure peace and secure the release of Venezuela's president and of Cilia Flores, a member of the National Assembly?
2. Does the VP/HR intend to suspend political, military and strategic relations with the United States on account of this breach of international law?
3. Does the VP/HR think that Member States should reconsider their NATO membership given its involvement in conflicts that threaten world peace?

Submitted: 3.1.2026

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

Following the recent developments in Venezuela, the EU has strongly reiterated that 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. Immediately after the strikes, on 4 January 2026, the EU through its High Representative/Vice-President and supported by 26 Member States called for calm and restraint by all actors, to avoid escalation and to ensure a peaceful solution to the crisis.

The EU is in close contact with the United States, as well as regional and international partners to support and facilitate dialogue that reaches all political and social sectors, leading to a negotiated, democratic, inclusive and peaceful solution to the crisis, led by Venezuelans.
