



EN COMÚ  
PODEM



Dear Ms Mogherini,

As you know, the current situation in the Republic of Ecuador is extremely concerning. Due to its agreement with the International Monetary Fund, the Government of Lenin Moreno passed a series of antisocial measures, which includes the reduction of salaries and rights for public workers or the elimination of tariffs and taxes on certain products.

The people's reaction has included eleven days of widespread protests, and concluded with the derogation of the elimination of subsidies on fuel - not with the rest of the measures of the decree known as the 'paquetazo'. The official data puts the numbers in up to seven people killed, 1,340 wounded and 1,152 arrested. The brutal repression and violence of the Government against peaceful protesters, and the persistence of the Government in implementing neoliberal policies, has made the protests continue. They are calling for a new election, as foreseen by the Ecuadorian Constitution for this kind of situations.

As well as the repression in the streets, Ecuadorian authorities have set up a policy of judicial prosecution against anyone linked to the previous government led by Rafael Correa. This type of prosecution has increased since the beginning of the protests, as we have seen with the arrest of the prefect of the province of Pichincha, Paola Pabón. Jorge Glas, who was Vice-President between 2013 and 2018, is imprisoned for a crime that is clearly politically fabricated. As we have seen in other places in Latin America, the judiciary is being used to end any form of progressive opposition.

One of the main action lines that the European Union's external policy declares to have is the development and consolidation of democracy and the Rule of Law, as well as respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. These are fundamental principles that must guide our action throughout the world, but, in the case of Ecuador, we have not seen any kind of declaration or condemnation of the brutal repression and political prosecution of Moreno's Government.

It would seem as if there was a double standard of the Union to condemn certain countries and ignore what happens in other ones depending on its own interests. This would not be in respect of the principles of our Common Foreign and Security Policy as laid out in article 21 of the Treaty of the European Union. For these reasons, we ask you for action as High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, not only in condemning the repression of the Government of Moreno, but also in a reconsideration of our relations with the Republic of Ecuador while this situations persists.

Best regards,

**Manu Pineda** (GUE/NGL)

**Sira Rego** (GUE/NGL)

**M<sup>a</sup> Eugenia Rodríguez Palop** (GUE/NGL)

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