

Member of the European Parliament

European Commission

Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200

1049 Brussels

Belgium

Dear High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Vice-President of the European Commission,

Mss Federica Mogherini

The economic and political situation in Venezuela is at stake. Thousands of civilians and foreigners are facing a very difficult time in this country of Latin America.

Venezuela is facing a tremendous humanitarian crisis, due to the lack of food, water and medicines. The National Assembly requested to the World Health Organisation to have an active role and send a number of medicines that would be helpful for the community, as it is well known by all of us.

Three-quarter of the supermarkets are empty, food is now being transported under armed guard and necessities are being rationed. Citizens have to queue for hours and sometimes overnight on their assigned days to receive staples like rice and cooking oil. More than ever, citizens of Venezuela as well as thousands of European emigrants are expecting to have international cooperation from the European Union.

The year of 2015 ended with an inflation rate of 180.9 %, the world's highest, according to figures published by the Central Bank of Venezuela. According to the IMF predictions, 2016 ended with the world's worst negative growth rate (-8%), and the worst inflation rate (482%).

Recently, the European Parliament approved a Motion for Resolution on the situation of Venezuela. With a large majority, we call on your attention to "urge the Venezuelan authorities to allow humanitarian aid into the country and to grant access to international organisations wishing to assist the most affected sectors of society".

On behalf of the Portuguese community living in Venezuela and after meeting with several NGO's from Venezuela, some of them from my homeland Madeira, I would like to request your maximum attention to this chaotic and dramatic crisis. This is a European issue because it involve also communities not only from Portugal, but also from Germany, Italy and Spain. We own them the aid that they bag us. Your role is highly appreciated by the European community and people demand a more active role of the European Commission in order to solve the crises.

Member of the European Parliament

On their behalf, I would like to know if the Commission is wondering to work together with the United Nations in order to establish humanitarian corridors in Venezuela that would be useful to provide food, water and medicines to the people. Regarding the situation of the people, is the High Representative following the needs of the European citizens that live in Venezuela and what can be done in the near future to provide a better assistance?

Please have my full support and my commitment in order to work together in favour of the local communities and European citizens living in Venezuela.

We all count on your support,

Best Regards



Cláudia Montelro de Aguiar

Member of the European Parliament