

**Question for written answer E-014427/2015  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - Imprisoned Cuban graffiti artist on hunger strike

Cuban graffiti artist Danilo Maldonado Machado, known as 'El Sexto', has been on hunger strike since 8 September in protest against his detention without trial in Cuba. He was imprisoned on 25 December 2014 on the accusation of 'contempt' and 'disrespecting the leaders of the Revolution'.

As already outlined in a letter of 24 April 2015 to the VP/HR denouncing the conditions of artists and activists in Cuba, including Maldonado and Tania Bruguera, the Cuban artist was arrested while travelling in a taxi in Havana that was transporting two pigs painted with the names 'Raúl' and 'Fidel', which he intended to release in an artistic show in Havana's Central Park.

Amnesty International considers him to be a prisoner of conscience, imprisoned solely for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression.

What measures does the VP/HR intend to take to urge the Cuban authorities to release Maldonado and to repeal all legislation which limits the fundamental values of freedom of expression, assembly and association in Cuba?