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We would like to express our frustration about the unjustified border control checks carried out last Saturday by the UK authorities when the Spanish MEP, Pablo Echenique, his team, and his wife were travelling from Brussels to London. Despite having all the necessary permits, they were considerably delayed at the UK border because she is a Venezuelan national, making them miss their train.

This might simply look like as an unfortunate anecdote, but in the current context it can also be seen as evidence of Mr Cameron's intentions to curtail the legal rights of many people who may have to undergo much worse situations in the future for not having a UK passport.

We therefore would like to express our concern and disappointment about the xenophobic escalation in the UK. A government who boasts its country to be a global player and currently benefits from the visits of millions of people for work or leisure to their shores every year should not embark upon anti-immigration policies.

Interestingly, according to a [report](#) by the Migration Observatory, migrants' economic contribution in the UK is highly positive for the country, as the revenues they generate largely exceed the value of any services and benefits received.

We believe Mr Cameron is testing the public opinion on the question of EU migration as part of an electoral strategy inspired in the xenophobic proposals and rise of UKIP, which are an attack on people's fundamental rights.

Meanwhile, the Home Office estimates that around 10,000 people in the UK, mostly from abroad, are in a situation of enslaved work. Any decent government should direct their efforts to fix his situation, rather than cutting back the rights of working people.

Signed by:

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