Question for written answer E-007582/2014 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 130 Patrick Le Hyaric (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Oil smuggling by Isis

Isis has secured significant new sources of funding by seizing oil fields in Iraq and Syria. According to estimates, the group can count on a production capacity of 50 000 barrels a day from the Syrian side and 30 000 from the Iraqi side, which could generate a total of USD 3.2 million a day.

The significant rise in the amount of smuggled oil seized at the Turkish border shows that Isis is trying to swell its coffers by selling more oil, confirming statements made by the EU Ambassador to Iraq at a parliamentary hearing on 2 September 2014.

The atrocities committed by Isis in the areas it has taken control of highlight the importance of cutting off all sources of funding to this barbaric terrorist group.

What sanctions and coordinated measures is the European External Action Service (EEAS) implementing in an effort to block these sources of funding?

What steps is the EEAS taking to check that this smuggled oil, transported through Turkey or Iraqi Kurdistan, is not being mixed with oil obtained from legitimate sources and then exported to Europe?

Has the EEAS launched investigations and subsequently taken steps to halt the stream of arms and funds intended for Isis?