

Question for written answer E-008683/2014
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - the European Endowment for Democracy

Various media sources have reported that the European Endowment for Democracy is actively helping to establish a new Russian-language television channel aimed at the Eastern Partnership countries. According to Katarzyna Kacperczyk, Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Poland (one of the countries contributing financially to the project) 'There is a clear need for this project. The idea is to provide unprejudiced and balanced information to people living in Eastern Partnership countries who get their news from the Russian media.'

Will the High Representative sponsor a 'propaganda war' against the backdrop of political change in the Eastern partnership countries?

The aim of disseminating democratic values and human rights appears a laudable one. The aims of the project in question tie in with sanctions against Russia and with EU policy in respect of that country.

Would the High Representative support initiatives to promote democratic values and human rights, even if these were to run counter to the common foreign policy?