

**Question for written answer E-000245/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Violation of macro-financial assistance rules with regard to Ukraine

The Commission has supported Ukraine with strong macro-financial assistance (MFA). Having disbursed a total of EUR 1.62 billion in 2014-2015, it is now preparing to lend the country another EUR 1.8 billion.

In accordance with the treaties, macro-financial assistance is only given under exceptional circumstances and exists to help countries experiencing serious difficulties with their balance of payments. An emergency assistance measure of this kind should not be used as regular financial support for economic and social development.

In accordance with the terms of the Council's decision and in the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding, what is at issue is much more than funding to correct the external imbalances of the Ukrainian economy. Possible areas affected by conditionality include the management of public finances, anticorruption measures, tax authorities, reforms to the energy and finance sectors and measures intended to improve the business environment.

What is the High Representative's opinion of this latest loan arrangement, which clearly goes against the rules laid down for MFA, particularly those regarding human rights?