

**Question for written answer E-000918/2015
to the Council**
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Legality of Spanish arms exports

Over the course of the past decade the volume of Spanish arms exports has increased by a factor of ten, thus making Spain the seventh largest arms exporter in the world.

According to information from the Delàs Centre for Peace Studies, Spain has exported arms to countries such as Saudi Arabia and Egypt, where systematic breaches of human rights occur – as the European Parliament has denounced – as well as the United Arab Emirates, which along with Saudi Arabia backs one of the sides in the Syrian conflict.

Among other *materiel* these exports have included bombs and spares for aircraft, artillery shells, machine-gun spare parts and riot-control equipment.

1. Does the Council consider that such exports are not covered by Common Position 2008/944/CFSP?
2. Does the Council consider that these exports endanger peace and security in the Middle East?
3. What mechanisms does the Council have at its disposal to oblige Member States to abide by its Common Positions?