

Question for written answer E-001116/2015
to the Council
Rule 130
Aymeric Chauprade (NI)

Subject: Escalation of violence in the Ukrainian crisis

On 27 January, Donald Tusk, the President of the European Council, categorically condemned what he described as a policy of appeasement towards Russia.

Furthermore the Heads of State or Government meeting in Brussels on 26 January stated that they were 'ready to take further steps if necessary' with regard to sanctions against Russia.

The Ukrainian President Poroshenko has said that 850 Russian troops have recently arrived in Ukraine and around 9 000 Russian troops are currently on Ukrainian territory but General Breedlove, Commander of US forces in Europe, has not been able to confirm this figure or provide concrete proof of the Russian presence in Ukraine.

1. In these circumstances, does the Council think it appropriate to support an escalation of violence against Russia when information remains patchy and unsubstantiated?
2. Is Europe, which is usually so prompt to give advice on diplomatic solutions, ready to take on a sabre-rattling role dictated by ideology and not by political and geopolitical reality?