

**Question for written answer E-006221/2015  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

**Barbara Lochbihler (Verts/ALE), Rebecca Harms (Verts/ALE), Alyn Smith (Verts/ALE), Klaus Buchner (Verts/ALE), Ulrike Lunacek (Verts/ALE), Ernest Urtasun (Verts/ALE) and Bodil Ceballos (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: VP/HR - League of Arab States Liaison Office in Malta

In the Declaration of the Third EU-League of Arab States Foreign Affairs Ministerial Meeting in Athens in June 2014, Ministers 'undertook to further support the European Commission-LAS Liaison Office in Malta (ECLASLO), to play a bigger role in enhancing practical cooperation between the two sides'<sup>1</sup>.

The Memorandum of Understanding between the European External Action Service and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States signed on 19 January 2015 does not mention the Liaison Office in Malta, but foresees the appointment of contact points for coordinating the activities under this MoU.

No information about the office in Malta appears to be readily accessible on the Internet.

Could the VP/HR clarify the current mandate and staffing of the European Commission-LAS Liaison Office in Malta and the possible funding provided by the Commission to this Office since its opening in November 2009?

Given that the headquarters of the League of Arab States is in Cairo, could the VP/HR clarify the rationale for opening this Office in Malta?

How does the VP/HR assess the practical contribution of this Office to the EU-LAS Dialogue, and why is the Office not foreseen in the implementation of the MoU between the EEAS and the LAS?

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.eeas.europa.eu/statements/docs/2014/140611\\_03\\_en.pdf](http://www.eeas.europa.eu/statements/docs/2014/140611_03_en.pdf)