

**Question for written answer E-007647/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Steven Woolfe (EFDD)

Subject: Sanctions against Russia but not Ukraine

The EU has imposed various sanctions on Russia, with frequent reference to Russia's human rights record as grounds for this. It is interesting to note that in 2014, Russia and Ukraine were the subject of not dissimilar numbers of applications to the European Court of Human Rights (Ukraine 13 804 complaints, Russia 15 792 complaints). This is remarkable given that Ukraine has a population of 45 million, whilst Russia has a population of 143 million.

1. Why is it then that the EU was so quick to place sanctions on Russia, but, whilst also placing sanctions on Ukraine, has approved vast amounts of financial assistance to the latter?
2. Is this appropriate given the vast number of human rights violations Ukraine has been accused of?