

Question for written answer E-010060/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Funding of Syrian rebels

The 'Washington Post' reported recently that the US Central Intelligence Agency (the CIA) has been running a programme for years now under which it funds, trains and prepares Syrian paramilitaries who are fighting the Syrian Government.

As a result of this US assistance Syria now finds itself plunged into complete chaos, a situation that is in turn conducive to ISIS extending its influence in the area .

The US assistance would thus appear to be counterproductive to efforts by the west to halt the growing presence of ISIS in the Middle East.

Is the High Representative aware of this programme?

Bearing in mind the urgency of the situation, is the High Representative considering showing support for the Syrian Government in order to prevent ISIS further extending its presence and strength in the area?