

**Question for written answer E-010758/2015  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Hugues Bayet (S&D)**

Subject: VP/HR - Military junta in Thailand - what is the EU doing?

A little over a year has passed since Prayuth Chan-ocha declared martial law in Thailand. On 22 May 2014 he overthrew the Thai Government in a coup d'état that followed months of political turmoil. He was then elected Prime Minister by the National Assembly on 21 August 2014, with the backing of the King of Thailand.

Although Prayuth Chan-ocha had promised to restore democracy in Thailand, a return to civilian government still seems a long way off. Instead the military junta is slowly but surely tightening its stranglehold over the country, acquiring more and more power.

Since the coup, the Thai economy has experienced feeble growth, just 0.8% instead of the 5.1% forecast.

How is the High Representative putting pressure on Prayuth Chan-ocha to abide by democratic principles and prepare the ground for the formation of a civilian government?