Question for written answer E-011414/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Olaf Stuger (ENF)

Subject: President of Rwanda - next dictator

The Parliament of Rwanda is going to amend the country's constitution so that, in two years' time, President Paul Kagame can keep his job after all. Kagame came to power after his Tutsi militia ended the 1994 genocide, in the course of which an estimated 800 000 people were murdered. His critics regard him as a dictator. Between 2014 and 2017, Rwanda will have received EUR 188 million in development aid from the Netherlands. A Dutch ministerial spokesperson was unable to say yet whether a third term of office for Kagame may give grounds for stopping the flow of funds. In December 2012, the Netherlands scrapped millions in aid for the judicial system in Rwanda because the Rwandan army was involved in a civil war in East Congo¹.

Under the 10th European Development Fund, Rwanda is receiving EUR 382 million in European taxpayers' money².

- 1. If President Kagame were indeed given a third term, what view would the Commission take?
- 2. Is the Commission prepared, possibly taking its lead from the Netherlands, to halt all development funding for Rwanda immediately if Kagame is given a third term?
- 3. Does the Commission agree with the PVV that the provision of development aid for third countries should be solely a national matter?

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¹ De Telegraaf, 15.7.2015.

https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/countries/rwanda_en