

**Question for written answer E-014022/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

Marie-Christine Vergiat (GUE/NGL), Malin Björk (GUE/NGL), Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (ALDE), Fabio De Masi (GUE/NGL), Helmut Scholz (GUE/NGL), Josef Weidenholzer (S&D), Sabine Lösing (GUE/NGL), Jean Lambert (Verts/ALE), Monika Vana (Verts/ALE) and Curzio Maltese (GUE/NGL)

Subject: VP/HR - Reconstruction of the city of Kobanî

In her letter of 9 September 2015 (ref. Ares (2015) 3716269), the High Representative wrote that the EU had allocated funds for the reconstruction of Kobanî with respect to several issues.

In particular, EUR 1 million from ECHO and EUR 5 million from the Instrument contributing to Peace and Stability (IcPS) were to be used for the demining of the city. However, 46 people appear to have died because of explosive devices over the last two months.

In addition, several NGOs have indicated that they were unable to enter the city and provide assistance to its inhabitants. Indeed, the embargo imposed by Turkey also applies to aid workers and demining, clearing and reconstruction equipment.

The High Representative also announced the payment of EUR 3.5 million for refugees from Kobanî and 'long-term development assistance funding through the European Neighbourhood Instrument' (unspecified amount).

1. Has the above funding for demining activities been actually released and provided to NGOs?
2. What is the status of funds for humanitarian and development assistance?
3. Is the EU pressing for Turkey to put an end to the embargo on Kobanî and the Rojava region?