

**Question for written answer E-001855/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Use of EU funds in military projects

In January 2016, as part of the 'Azor Lineage' exercise, NATO's Very High Readiness Joint Task Force (VJTF) carried out manoeuvres in the Parga military camp, very near Rozas airport.

The Commission claims to have no knowledge of EU funds being invested in military projects; the manoeuvres conducted in the Parga military camp were, however, an extension of the preparatory exercises for Israeli Searcher II drones, which carried out test exercises in Rozas as part of the 'Trident Juncture' exercise. What is more, the Atlante drone was developed at Rozas airport. This drone is defined as a multi-purpose UAS (Unmanned Aerial System), making it the first tactical uncrewed aircraft capable of carrying out both civil and military missions. We have been privy to information that confirmed that the Ministry of Defence had ordered missile developer MBDA to arm the Atlante drone with military weapons, thereby completing the project to convert this model into a combat UAS.

Rozas airport receives EU funding through the European Regional Development Fund and the research and innovative strategies for smart specialisation (RIS3) programme.

Does the Commission still claim not to know that EU funds are being used for military projects?