

**Question for written answer E-002526/2016
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Sotirios Zarianopoulos (NI)

Subject: VP/HR - Young Communists persecuted in the Ukraine

On 17 February 2016, while leaving flowers at a Soviet monument which still stands in place despite the anti-Communist hysteria displayed by the reactionary Kiev administration, the secretary of the Leninist Communist Youth Union of the Ukraine, the youth union of the Ukrainian Communist Party, Mikhail Kononovich, the first secretary of the City Committee of Kiev, Kgor Plitsin, together with other members of the organisation fell victim to an attack with murderous intent by fascists, were seriously injured and taken to hospital. Mikhail Kononovich suffered serious blows to his head, and Igor Plitsin is in danger of losing his sight.

Next, the fascist gangs were pressuring the hospital doctors not to provide medical assistance to the Young Communists, and continued their regular visits at Kononovich's house intimidating his family and little daughter, as they used to do in previous months.

It is not an isolated incident, but part of a continued repression, especially after the passing of anti-Communist laws and the banning of political activities, also following the show trial last December which banned the Ukrainian Communist Party.

Could the High Representative please state:

- Does the Commission condemn the persecution of Young Communists by fascist forces?
- What is the position of the Commission on state terrorism and repression and on the request for free and unobstructed mass political action by the Ukrainian Communist Party and its youth, and the working class and grassroots movement?