

**Question for written answer E-002977/2016/rev.1  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Doru-Claudian Frunzuliță (S&D)**

Subject: VP/HR - Escalation of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

On 2 April 2016, severe clashes erupted between Azerbaijan and Armenia in the Nagorno-Karabakh region, a disputed, Armenian-majority area which is legally part of Azerbaijan. The scope, scale and intensity of the fighting have led some observers to talk about a rehearsal for the next war between Azerbaijan and Armenia. Such a war would be extremely devastating. In the 20 years since the fragile ceasefire, the two countries have each built large arsenals. The region's energy infrastructure would be targeted, disrupting the construction of new transportation routes and undermining EU energy security as a result. Mediation efforts by the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Minsk Group Co-Chairs (the USA, France and Russia) are at an impasse.

Is the VP/HR considering taking practical steps so that military actions will be ceased and military troops withdrawn?