

Question for written answer E-003522/2016
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: VP/HR - Retaliation against FYROM for infringement of Greek airspace

On 21 April 2016, the Hellenic General Staff released a statement admitting that two helicopters from FYROM had illegally flown half a mile into the Greek national airspace (Athens FIR) over Aridaia at 9.33 and 9.49, local time.

This was the first recorded encroachment on Greek airspace by FYROM in 2016. It had been preceded in March 2016 by numerous territorial encroachments by police officers from FYROM using rubber bullets, teargas, chemicals and stun grenades against thousands of refugees on the Greek side of the border.

This increase in the number of infringements of Greek national sovereignty by FYROM is the result of the impunity it has recently enjoyed in its relations with the EU, which has done nothing at all in response to its repeated infringements of international law and agreements with the Member States for the management of refugee flows.

In view of this:

What legal action will be taken by the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy with a view to ensuring that the FYROM authorities end their infringements of Greek national sovereignty and comply with international law?