

**Question for written answer E-003843/2016
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Monica Macovei (ECR)**

Subject: VP/HR - EU strategy vis-à-vis Central Asia

The EU's objectives in Central Asia vary from promoting democracy to trade, energy and security. Brussels has delegations in four out of five countries in this region. The Silk Road agenda of China and the Eurasian ambitions of Russia further extend Asia's regional thinking. Oil-rich Kazakhstan is responsible for most of the trade and investment in Central Asia. The biggest trade partners in Central Asia are China and the EU. The EU imports 80 % of Kazakhstan's oil, which makes Kazakhstan a relevant country for the EU. The 2007 EU strategy for Central Asia was reviewed in 2015.

What is the VP/HR's strategy regarding Central Asia in the light of the geopolitical developments?