

**Question for written answer E-007932/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Xabier Benito Ziluaga (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Commission position on the Southern Gas Corridor

The EC has repeatedly stated its support for the Southern Gas Corridor (SGC), inter alia by attending the 'SGC Advisory Council' meetings in Baku in 2015 and 2016 and including sections of the pipeline in the list of Projects of Common Interest.

1. Has the Commission undertaken an economic and climate assessment of the SGC? If so, how can the Commission ensure that its support for this project is in line with the Paris Agreement and does not end up financing a stranded asset?

The gas to be fed into the SGC is coming from Azerbaijan, where government repression of media and activists is continuing unchanged. The Commission's endorsement of the SGC would provide key support for the repressive Azeri regime and its appalling record on human rights and fundamental freedoms.

2. How is the Commission ensuring that its support for the SGC is in line with the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the obligations under Article 21 of the EU Treaty on the principles governing the Union's external action, which include upholding the basic values of democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights?