

**Question for written answer E-009277/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Doru-Claudian Frunzuliță (S&D)

Subject: Venezuela's humanitarian crisis

Venezuela is experiencing a profound humanitarian crisis. Severe shortages of medicines and medical supplies make it extremely difficult for many Venezuelans to obtain essential medical care. And severe shortages of food and other goods make it difficult for many people to receive adequate nutrition and cover their families' basic needs. Venezuelan authorities deny the existence of a crisis. While the government continues to argue that the crisis does not exist, Venezuelans' rights to health and food continue to be seriously undermined, with no end in sight. It seems that Venezuela has suffered a dramatic decline in the enjoyment of economic and social rights, with increasingly widespread hunger and sharply deteriorating healthcare, according to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Is the European Union going to help alleviate the crisis by also contributing to a comprehensive, independent assessment of the situation on the ground, including on the extent and impact of the shortages of medicines, medical supplies and food?