

**Question for written answer E-009779/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Marie-Christine Arnautu (ENF)

Subject: EU aid for Ukraine

In 2014, the EU decided to prop up the Ukrainian Government and economy with a huge aid package worth more than EUR 11 billion in order to tackle the political, diplomatic, economic and budgetary crises caused by the uprising that was organised to block the legitimate government's decision to align itself with Russia.

On 7 December 2016, the European Court of Auditors published a report which makes it very clear that the results of the aid programme are unsatisfactory – especially considering the large amount of money involved – mainly due to funds having been appropriated by the oligarchy. The Court stresses that the funding was issued hastily, with no strategy nor any means of monitoring how it is used, to a country where corruption is rife and the hidden economy is thriving.

Given the above, will the Commission put a definitive end to financial aid that appears to bear no fruit whatsoever? After all, behind those financial arguments lies the fact that the money was paid by EU citizens, many of whom are themselves in precarious economic situations.

Failing that, will it, for purely geopolitical and ideological reasons, only grant aid on the condition that public money is properly managed and ensure that it benefits disadvantaged Ukrainians and the community rather than the insatiable oligarchy?