

**Question for written answer E-000936/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Miguel Urbán Crespo (GUE/NGL), Tania González Peñas (GUE/NGL), Estefanía Torres Martínez (GUE/NGL) and Xabier Benito Ziluaga (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Construction of border fences in Lithuania using EU funding

The Lithuanian Minister for the Interior, Eimutis Misiunas, has announced plans to build a fence 2 metres high and 130 kilometres long separating Lithuania from Russia. Construction will begin in spring and is expected to be completed by the end of 2017. The structure will be fitted with video surveillance equipment, is expected to cost around EUR 30 million and, according to a number of sources, will be funded by the EU.

However, the Commission previously adopted the Poland-Russia and Lithuania-Russia cross-border cooperation programmes for the regions bordering Kaliningrad. The main objectives of the Lithuania-Russia programme are to improve border management and border security, to promote culture, and to support local and regional good governance.

Can the Commission clarify whether or not the construction of this fence is part of the Lithuania-Russia cross-border programme?

In view of current tensions and the new global geopolitical landscape, does the Commission plan to promote 'Fortress Europe' and policies that create further hostility and tension by closing and militarising EU borders?