

**Question for written answer E-002739/2017/rev.1**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: VP/HR - US bombing in Syria

In the early hours of 7 April, the United States launched 59 Tomahawk missiles against the Shayrat airbase in Syria, justifying the attack on the grounds that the Government had used chemical weapons against civilians.

Without awaiting the outcome of the investigation and without any evidence, the international community condemned the Syrian Government for these attacks, despite the fact that it had sent multiple letters in recent months to the United Nations pointing out that terrorists were moving chemical weapons from Turkey to eastern Aleppo.

Despite this, the United States took unilateral action against a sovereign country without the approval of the UN Security Council. We are reminded of Colin Powell and Iraq, which 14 years after being invaded is now a failed state.

On 7 April, the VP/HR issued a statement on behalf of the European Union saying that the US had given notice that it had launched this attack.

Should the European Union not have condemned a unilateral attack against a sovereign nation? Is it not the case that, by taking place outside the United Nations framework, this unilateral action was in violation of international law?