

**Question for written answer E-003244/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Intra-Maghreb diplomatic relations

For several months I have been concerned about the changing diplomatic relations between the countries of the Maghreb. It seems that dialogue has become difficult, if not non-existent, between Algeria and its neighbours.

Firstly, Libya has begrudgingly accepted Algiers's offer to mediate in an attempt to resolve the ongoing conflicts in Libya.

Secondly, the Tunisian Foreign Minister called Algerian relations into question during a conference in Rome on 4 June 2016, making it clear that they do not exist and are very difficult to cultivate.

Thirdly, the ageing latent conflict between Algeria and Morocco drags on.

Given that the Maghreb is an area where the EU, alongside Member States, is heavily invested both diplomatically and financially, what role can we play to kick-start dialogue and bring some calm to our neighbours' relations? Can the EU take initiatives to this end?