

**Question for written answer E-004282/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Rachida Dati (PPE)

Subject: Geopolitical tensions in the Arctic

On 27 April 2016 the Commission submitted a joint communication to the European Parliament and the Council entitled 'On an integrated EU policy for the Arctic'. In this communication, the Commission establishes a framework for protecting and developing the Arctic region.

However, the Commission communication does little or nothing to address a number of topics which are of crucial importance to the region. In particular, the geopolitical situation there is worrying. Commercial and other human activities are on the increase and are attracting growing attention from certain states, leading to a resurgence of diplomatic tensions in the region.

In the light of the above, the EU, which has strategic interests in the region and has a role to play on the international stage, should tackle these problems.

Accordingly, what instruments and measures might the Commission implement to address the geopolitical and security situation in the Arctic?