

**Question for written answer E-004622/2017**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Udo Voigt (NI)**

Subject: Drug smuggling from EU countries into Iran

According to the Pars Today news portal, drug smuggling into Iran has risen to such proportions that the Iranian Government has formally protested to the EU. The United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and Spain have been specifically criticised for failing to police their borders.

Nematollah Mumvandi, head of the Iranian customs Drug Enforcement Unit, has been quoted as saying that smuggling of marijuana into Iran has increased over the past three months, as has the number of finds in parcels sent by post.

The fight against international drug trafficking has claimed a high toll of victims in Iran – more than 3 500 officials have been killed in recent years and at least 10 000 others have been injured. In no other country does drug-taking – measured against the size of the population – occur on as large a scale as it does in Iran. More than 200 inhabitants in every 100 000 are in prison for drug-related offences, twice as many as in other Asian countries.

1. What information can the Commission provide about the extent of the smuggling whereby drugs are conveyed out of EU countries – in particular from the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and Spain – and end up in Iran?
2. What action, if any, will it take to crack down more effectively on the drug trafficking leading from the above countries to Iran?
3. How does it intend to respond to the Iranian protest?