

**Question for written answer E-007064/2017
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
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Subject: VP/HR - Future prospects for the Europe of Defence

At the latest EU Foreign Affairs Council, EU foreign and defence ministers, together with the High Representative, announced the activation of Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) through the creation of the Europe of Defence.

This announcement marks a further step in implementing the EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy.

In view of the VP/HR's vision set out in the Global Strategy, the Council's position, established on 15 December 2016, to move towards greater cooperation and coordination in security and defence aspects, and the possibility offered under the Treaties with regard to this issue:

1. What role will the VP/HR play to achieve, as ambitiously as possible, the goals set out with the activation of the PESCO and, previously, in the Global Strategy?
2. What measures will be adopted under the PESCO to facilitate the exchange of security data and intelligence information between Member States?
3. How will the European Defence Agency's capacities and budget be increased to achieve the stated aims of the Europe of Defence?