

**Question for written answer E-002695/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Possible breach of the Common Position by the Spanish Government

According to statistics published by the Secretary of State for Trade, Spain exported EUR 270.2 million worth of arms to Saudi Arabia in 2017, an increase of 133% on the previous year.

Given Saudi Arabia's role in the conflict in Yemen, this supply of arms may be being used for purposes that breach the Arms Trade Treaty, ratified by Spain in 2015, and the legally binding criteria set out in Common Position 2008/944/CFSP.

The latest European Parliament report on arms export: implementation of Common Position 2008/944/CFSP (2017/2029(INI)) called for the establishment of a control system to state clearly whether or not Member States' exports comply with the criteria of the Common Position.

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1. When does the Commission intend to establish the aforementioned control system?
2. Does it plan to contact the Spanish authorities to discuss their lack of commitment to the Common Position?
3. What measures will be taken to ensure that all Member States comply with the common rules governing arms exports to third countries?