

Question for written answer E-002786/2018
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Udo Voigt (NI)

Subject: VP/HR - Foreign military personnel being held by the Syrian armed forces

According to media reports, as well as a Syrian security expert, several hundred foreign soldiers, including numerous officers, are currently being held by the Syrian armed forces following their successful reconquest of Syrian territory in recent months. The security expert Akram al-Shalli is quoted by the Russian news portal 'Sputnik' as stating that the Syrian army is holding numerous officers of foreign countries, including about 300 French military of various ranks, who are said to have fought against the government army.

- 1) What does the VP / HR know about foreign, in particular European, military personnel being held by the Syrian armed forces?
- 2) How many foreign military personnel are involved and which countries are they from, as far as the VP / HR knows?
- 3) What missions were the members of European armed forces undertaking in Syria?