

**Question for written answer E-005677/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Kostadinka Kuneva (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Murder of Kateryna Handzyuk and corruption in Ukraine

On 4 November 2018, Kateryna Handzyuk, the Ukrainian anti-corruption activist and member of Kherson City Council, died as a result of the severe burns she suffered in an acid attack in July. Ms Handzyuk had indicated that the local police forces were the probable perpetrators. She had criticised them for being 'mixed up' in local public procurement contracts and business deals.

Many similar attacks on anti-corruption activists in Ukraine have been reported in the past year, but the perpetrators have not been brought to justice.

A legislative Resolution adopted in June by the European Parliament, and specifically the Annex to it¹, emphasises that further financial assistance to Ukraine is dependent on the pre-condition that the country respects effective democratic mechanisms, including a multi-party parliamentary system and the rule of law, guarantees respect for human rights and makes progress in combating corruption. The Resolution calls on the Commission to submit a detailed report on these pre-conditions after each disbursement.

Can the Commission say:

Given the murders and attacks on activists, does it consider Ukraine is continuing to meet the pre-conditions for financial assistance?

What steps is it taking to ensure that the Ukrainian authorities identify the perpetrators of the attacks, guarantee the safety of activists and complete actions to combat corruption?

¹ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P8-TA-2018-0255+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN>