

**Question for written answer E-000141/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Jeppe Kofod (S&D)

Subject: Export of surveillance technology to Belarus

There is a blanket ban on the export to Belarus of items used for the purpose of internal repression, including surveillance technology. Despite this, however, it has been reported in the European media that, between 2015 and 2017, Belarus received over DKK 16 million in EU funding for the purchase of surveillance equipment for use on the country's borders¹.

In the light of the foregoing:

1. On what basis does the Commission conclude that the aforementioned support does not breach the sanctions in place against the Belarusian regime?
2. What specific security assurances have been obtained from the Belarusian regime to ensure that the aforementioned equipment is not used, for example, in internal crackdowns on opposition politicians, trade unions or the general public?
3. Does the Commission know how the aforementioned surveillance and border security equipment – including vehicles – has been used by the Belarusian authorities, and whether the equipment has been used exclusively for border surveillance and border security?

¹ https://politiken.dk/udland/int_europa/art6925649/EU-st%C3%B8tten-diktaturstats-h%C3%A5rdh%C3%A6ndede-gr%C3%A6nsekontrol-med-millioner