

**Question for written answer P-008853/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Philippe Juvin (PPE)**

Subject: Stability of Lebanon

According to the EU's Neighbourhood Barometer project, a majority of Lebanese consider the EU to be a vital partner. 43 % of them trust the EU, a greater proportion than those who trust the Arab League (21 %), the UN (40 %) or NATO (19 %). The EU has long been committed to ensuring Lebanon's security, stability and prosperity, but the country is now facing instability due to political uncertainties at the highest levels of the state, the threat of ISIS and the influx of refugees from Syria, Iraq and Palestine, which Prime Minister Tammam Salam describes as being in excess of the country's absorption capacity.

1. On 28 October 2014, the UN increased its estimates of the amount of financial aid deemed necessary to maintain stability in Syria's neighbours. With regard to Lebanon, how does the EU plan to respond to this appeal in order to help that country to educate refugee children, who are at risk of becoming a 'lost generation'?
2. Lebanon, the centre of gravity of the Middle East, is a strategic location for the regional balance of power. France and Saudi Arabia have signed a contract to provide aid to the Lebanese Army, but how does the EU intend to help Lebanon to defend its territory and fight against terrorism?