

**Question for written answer P-000029/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Proposal for a regulation on conflict minerals (COM(2014)0111)

The main objective of the proposal for a regulation on conflict minerals (COM(2014)0111) is to break the nexus between conflict and the illegal exploitation of minerals. So-called conflict minerals undermine governments' efforts to maintain inclusive socio-economic development, good governance and the rule of law. The regulation does not concern solely activities carried out within the EU and its effects will not be limited to the EU; it will mostly concern and impact third countries, in particular developing countries. Hence, the regulation and its objectives cannot be considered separately from development cooperation. Efficient accompanying measures must therefore be adopted and included in the regulation if it is to have a real impact on the affected countries and regions, and their implementation requires extensive political dialogue with mineral-rich countries. Consequently, DG DEVCO should assume its competence and be equally involved in the implementation of these accompanying measures as set out in the joint communication by the Commission and the VP/HR.

Can the Commission clarify how it will ensure that efficient accompanying measures are incorporated in the regulation? What steps are being taken to guarantee the smooth cooperation between DG DEVCO and DG Trade necessary for the effective implementation of the proposed regulation?