

**Question for written answer P-013837/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Monica Macovei (PPE)

Subject: Observations by Mr Juncker regarding 'a more appropriate relationship with Russia'

Whilst in Passau, on 8 October 2015, Mr Juncker observed that the European Union should have 'a more appropriate relationship with Russia'. It is not clear to us what exactly he meant by this and we would certainly not be willing to accept any compromise that amounted to putting Romania up for auction. This has already happened once in the past and we are not going to let it happen again. We wish to remain free. Each EU Member State should be entitled to the same degree of protection and respect.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission explain what is meant by 'a more appropriate relationship'? Should we be working for a 'better' or a 'more fitting' relationship with Russia, given the two do not mean the same thing? It is fitting for us to look at the facts. Russia is a dictatorship whose actions are still assessed in terms of loss of life and human rights infringements.
2. How is it possible to achieve a real and transparent partnership with Russia if it insists on blatantly infringing the values that lie at the very heart of the European Union?