

**Question for written answer P-015020/2015**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Javier Couso Permuy (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: VP/HR - Downing of Russian aircraft by Turkey

We have recently received the dreadful news of the shooting down of a Russian aircraft by Turkey with the result that, according to press reports, one pilot was killed and another captured.

While they both acknowledge what occurred, Turkey and Russia disagree as to the circumstances surrounding the incident, which has caused an inadmissible escalation of tension in an area posing a threat to both the surrounding region and the EU Member States and will have unpredictable consequences, given that a NATO country and a nuclear power are both involved.

In view of growing public concern, reflected in the findings of analysts, journalists and politicians, regarding the lack of commitment being shown by Turkey in combating Dáesh and the ease with which oil smugglers or jihadists are able to cross its borders, motivated by its own agenda in seeking to topple the Syrian Government and target Kurdish forces in Iraq and Syria, will the High Representative urge Turkey to immediately halt military operations that could definitively detonate the explosive situation in this region? Will she impress on the Turkish authorities the need for genuine cooperation in combating Dáesh?