

**Question for written answer P-006489/2016  
to the Council**

Rule 130

**Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)**

Subject: Violation by Spain of Common Position 2008/944 / CFSP

According to statistics published by the Spanish Ministry of Trade, Spain has exported weapons to countries that systematically violate human rights and fail to meet the eight criteria set out in Common Position 2008/944 / CFSP.

In 2015, arms sales reached a record high. Spanish exports went to countries such as Colombia, Egypt, Iraq and Saudi Arabia, where there is a clear risk that the arms may be used for purposes prohibited by the Common Position. In the case of Saudi Arabia, which ranks as the second largest destination of these exports, there is a possibility that the arms acquired may be used in the armed conflict taking place in Yemen.

At the same time, NGOs such as Amnesty International have protested that the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) adopted by the United Nations on 2 April 2013 is being violated by at least a quarter of the countries that signed it, including some Member States.

In view of the above, will the Council say:

1. Does it intend to raise these violations of Common Position 2008/944 / CFSP with the Spanish authorities?
2. Does it consider it necessary to promote a uniform and consistent application of the eight criteria in Common Position 2008/944 / CFSP between Member States?
3. What action will it take internationally to promote the full implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty?