

**Question for written answer E-008774/2012
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 117
Piotr Borys (PPE)

Subject: VP/HR - Urgent need for an observation mission to monitor the Vladimir Kozlov trial in Kazakhstan

On 15 March 2012, the European Parliament adopted a resolution concerning Kazakhstan which called on the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to monitor developments in that country closely. At present, the trial of opposition leader Vladimir Kozlov is taking place in Kazakhstan. The trial is entering its final stages and a judgment is expected shortly. Vladimir Kozlov could be sentenced to a maximum of 13 years in prison, making this a very urgent matter. The presence of representatives from European institutions and international organisations has resulted in the acquittal of other opposition leaders, as well as a reduction in sentencing severity.

Therefore, I would like to ask the following questions:

Does the High Representative agree that monitoring the Vladimir Kozlov trial in Kazakhstan is necessary?

Does the European External Action Service plan to send its representatives to Kazakhstan for the Vladimir Kozlov trial, which is entering its final stages and in which a judgment is expected shortly?

Will the High Representative, acting in accordance with the requirements of the Resolution, present a report on these observations to the European Parliament?