

Question for written answer E-006928/2013
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 117
Paweł Robert Kowal (ECR)

Subject: VP/HR - Situation in Syria

As the Syrian Civil War continues in its third year of conflict, the plight of the Syrian people continues. Chemical weapons, illegal executions, and child soldiers have all allegedly been used. While the United Nations estimated in May that 80 000 people have died in the conflict, some groups, such as the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, estimate that as many as 120 000 have perished. The UNHCR has registered 1 204 707 refugees as of March 2013, and another 2.5 million Syrians are estimated to be internally displaced. With rising sectarianism and no foreseeable end to the conflict in the near future, the EU has a responsibility to act as a mediator and peacemaker.

1. What actions has the EU taken to alleviate the suffering of refugees?
2. What capacity does the EU possess for admitting Syrian refugees?
3. With the lifting of the arms embargo on Syria, what measures is the EU taking to bring an end to the violence?