

**Question for written answer E-011369/2013  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 117

**Adrian Severin (NI)**

Subject: VP/HR - Armenia joining the Eurasian Union

The EU has been taken by surprise by Armenia's decision to join a trade and political union with Russia, rather than opting for the EU alternative.

Yerevan's decision to join the Eurasian Union is more important from a political point of view than an economic one. It represents a blow to EU interests in the region and illustrates the EU's incapacity to support those interests with concrete actions.

This outcome represents yet another example of EU eastern policy fiascos following the implementation of the misguided principle of 'more for more'. For neighbouring countries faced with threats and alternative opportunities, this principle is pushing them to give more to those who pressure them more in the present rather than to those who promise them more in an indefinite future.

In the light of these developments and the increasing pressure placed by Russia on the Eastern Partnership countries, the VP/HR is kindly requested to answer the following questions:

1. Does the VP/HR agree that it is the EU's failure to promote its vital interests in the Eastern Neighbourhood by means of specific action based on geopolitical considerations that has prompted Armenia to join the Eurasian Union?
2. What does the VP/HR intend to do in order to remedy the current situation and stop the unravelling of the Eastern Partnership?