

**Question for written answer E-000386/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

**Fabrizio Bertot (PPE)**

Subject: Cost of the Eastern Partnership

In June 2008, the Council of Europe sanctioned the creation of the Eastern Partnership, the agenda for political association that the European Union has begun with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus within the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy. This project, which seeks to forge stronger links with these post-Soviet states, has benefitted from funding of approximately EUR 600 million up to the end of 2013.

The Eastern Partnership policy has provoked a near diplomatic crisis with Russia. Ukraine has frozen preparations to join the EU, favouring closer ties with Russia. This decision has also prompted fierce reaction, as well as political dissent and street protests.

1. In light of the above, can the Commission disclose how the funding earmarked for the Eastern Partnership has been spent in the past and how future monies will be spent?
2. What effect might the new agreement between Russia and Ukraine have on the relationship between the EU and the government in Kiev?