Question for written answer E-002880/2014 to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative) Rule 117 Fabrizio Bertot (PPE)

Subject: VP/HR - Developments in Ukraine

The situation in Ukraine remains critical. In addition to threats of secession and the Ukrainian Government's decision to call up its military reservists, there is now a very real danger that armed conflict could flare up at the EU's doorstep.

The protests, which began last November, not only in Kiev but also in other cities in western Ukraine, broke out following the president's decision not to sign an association agreement with the EU, and instead to opt for closer ties with Russia.

Recent news reports suggest that the bloody clashes were triggered by snipers who fired indiscriminately at police and protesters alike.

Many media outlets have published the transcript of a telephone call between the VP/HR and the Estonian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Urmas Paet, who has confirmed the authenticity of the call.

Can the VP/HR say whether this telephone call did in fact take place, whether she has received any new details about the situation in Ukraine, either from the telephone call or from other sources, and whether the information given by the Estonian Minister has influenced her stance on the events in Ukraine (and if so, how)?

1022981.EN PE 531.555