Question for written answer E-008862/2015/rev.1 to the Council

Rule 130

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Subject: EU-Russia relations

During the March 2015 summit, the European heads of state and government agreed to maintain the restrictive measures against the Russian Federation until the Minsk agreements had been fully implemented. They also agreed to resume talks on relations with Russia and the situation in Ukraine during the next meeting on 25 June 2015.

But as this approach does not fully cover the desired outcomes, a real action plan for Russia is now needed. At its next summit the Council should not only reflect on the issues of lifting, extending or maintaining the sanctions, but it should also primarily propose a package with positive measures for more intense cooperation between the EU and Russian students, SMEs, researchers, NGOs and civil society in general.

- 1. Does the Council acknowledge that the current approach does not fully cover the desired outcomes and that a complex strategy for Russia is now needed?
- 2. Will the Council task the Vice-President / High Representative with working to prepare an action plan with positive measures for more intense democracy- and values-based cooperation between the EU and Russian students, SMEs, researchers, NGOs and civil society in general?

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