

Question for written answer E-001723/2017
to the Commission
Rule 130
Louis Aliot (ENF)

Subject: Establishment of a European military HQ

At a meeting in Brussels on 6 March 2017, EU foreign ministers cleared the way for the establishment of a European military headquarters (HQ). The main purpose of the HQ, which is expected to be operational from spring 2017, is to centralise command of certain external missions and to oversee, from Brussels, three military training missions in Mali, Somalia and the Central African Republic. The substance of this project and its 'non-executive' mandate is, however, still unclear.

- Can the Commission describe in detail the activities and competences of the HQ? Can it assure the general public that the HQ will not form the basis for a European army, for which the EU has no mandate, given that defence is a matter of national competence?
- Can it describe the HQ's exact set-up?
- Will the HQ's activities and spending be monitored as part of the budgetary discharge procedure?