**Question for written answer E-000657/2018**

**to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Péter Niedermüller (S&D)**

Subject: Continuing harassment of NGOs in Hungary

The Hungarian Government has made available a draft legislative package entitled ‘Stop Soros’ for public debate.

According to the draft, NGOs designated as ‘organisations supported from abroad which promote mass migration’ will be put at a considerable legal disadvantage. Such NGOs will have to be registered, pay a quarter of their foreign funding as duty, and provide, for example, details of their bank accounts to the National Bank of Hungary. If an organisation fails to register of its own accord, it will face a fine.

The grounds for the proposal make clear the intention of the lawmakers to include organisations helping asylum-seekers legally residing in Hungary in this category, and the Government has already drawn up a list of all such organisations.

Experts and those directly affected agree that the sole aim of the draft is to further demonise and intimidate NGOs.

In the light of the above, I should like to ask the following:

In the Commission’s view, is discriminating against certain NGOs because they work with refugees and receive support from abroad in compliance with EU law?

In the Commission’s view, does the behaviour of the Hungarian Government, whereby it continuously attacks NGOs concerned with human rights which are operating in the country, seriously violate the fundamental values laid down in Article 2 TEU?