

**Question for written answer E-002860/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
Sotirios Zarianopoulos (NI)**

Subject: Fresh wave of anti-communist persecution in Poland

After banning communist symbols and prosecuting and putting on trial members of the rank and file of the Polish Communist Party for disseminating their ideas through the 'Brzask' newspaper – measures which are still ongoing – the Polish authorities have initiated the prosecution of a professor who, on the 200th anniversary of the birth of Karl Marx, held a conference on Marxism at the University of Szczecin. This new prosecution is unacceptable. Brandishing a mandate from the public prosecutor, the police invaded the conference being held on the university's premises, seeking, as they claimed, evidence to substantiate the provocative charge of 'promoting totalitarianism.'

With this fresh act of persecution, the Polish government is continuing the anti-communist frenzy being whipped up by the EU and the governments of other countries, while pursuing attacks on workers' rights.

In view of the above, can the Commission say:

What view does it take of the provocative prosecutions and trials on trumped up charges initiated by the Polish authorities which in effect deny the Polish Communist Party the right to exchange ideas and engage in political expression and action?