

**Question for written answer E-005464/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Ilhan Kyuchyuk (ALDE)**

Subject: EU financial support for the upcoming snap elections in Armenia

Following a request from the country's government, the European Union is planning to allocate EUR 3 million to Armenia in the hope of ensuring that the upcoming snap elections are held in line with democratic standards. The EU already provided EUR 7 million in the run-up to Armenia's last parliamentary elections in April 2017, with the money mainly spent on the installation of new electronic voter authentication devices and video cameras in polling stations up and down the country. Although OSCE observers reported 'credible information about vote-buying, and pressure on civil servants and employees of private companies', the EU stubbornly commended the handling of the elections. The credibility of the EU's position was undermined, however, by statements from the now acting prime minister, Nikol Pashinyan, who claimed that the ensuing legislative powers were obtained through fraud and electoral bribes and must therefore be revoked.

How will the EU enforce accountable spending of its financial support to Armenia in order to restore the credibility of its taxpayers?