

**Question for written answer E-001574/2019
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 130

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Subject: VP/HR - EU/Russia sanctions

Despite the fact that reciprocal sanctions between the European Union and Russia have now been in place for almost five years, recent responses given by the Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (VP/HR) suggest that relations between Ukraine and Russia have hardly changed and that the sanctions have had no political effect.

These sanctions are, however, causing real harm to European producers: for example, the French pig industry is losing out on revenues of EUR 400 million a year, while Norwegian exports to Russia are down by EUR 1 billion a year. Moreover, these sanctions are completely undermining the structure of the global market. While Member States are losing their market share in Russia, third countries unaffected by the Russian embargo are taking advantage. For instance, China has opened a fruit and vegetable export terminal and Brazilian meat exports have risen.

- (1) Can the VP/HR say whether the sanctions against Russia, which have been in place for nearly five years, have had any useful impact?
- (2) Can the VP/HR provide an up-to-date assessment of the implementation of the Minsk agreements?
- (3) Can the VP/HR put a precise figure on the impact of the Russian embargo on the EU economy since 2014?