

Question for written answer E-001775/2019
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Josef Weidenholzer (S&D)

Subject: VP/HR - EU policy towards Iran I

There are concerns about the designation by the US administration of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a 'foreign terrorist organisation'. This designation is unprecedented as it concerns a branch of a foreign country's official armed forces. It makes it more difficult to pursue diplomacy with Iran in the future and increases the risks of a direct military confrontation between the US and Iran having devastating consequences for the Middle East and Europe.

1. What is the position of the EU on this designation?
2. What is the assessment of the VP/HR and the EEAS on the potential effects of this designation on the EU's efforts to safeguard the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) with Iran?
3. Does the VP/HR foresee increased US pressure on the EU to follow the US lead on the designation of the IRGC, and if so, have contingency plans been put in place for reacting to such pressure?