

Question for written answer E-002376/2020

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 138

Lars Patrick Berg (ID)

Subject: Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO)

The International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) has called the relevance of the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) into question. It has suggested that the projects funded by PESCO were already being carried out on a national basis.

Assuming that this is an accurate assessment of the projects currently being funded, and considering that Member States have different requirements for equipment such as aircraft and tanks, could the VP/HR say:

1. whether the participating Member States have agreed on a threat analysis, and if the aim of PESCO is to increase their ability to counteract these threats;
2. to what extent PESCO is designed to enhance the EU and the participating Member States' ability to undertake major military operations?
3. whether he considers the major threat to the EU to come from Russia, terrorism, uncontrolled migration or a mixture of the three?