Question for written answer E-004235/2020

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: Turkish activity in Libya

Over the past four months, it has been reported that Syrian mercenaries brought to Libya by Turkey to fight for the Government of National Accord have not been paid. Reports also suggest that some of the mercenaries are moving into Niger, while others are going to refugee camps with the aim of travelling to Europe.

Given the enormous difficulties in ensuring territorial security in Niger, and the fact that the refugee camps are run by militias rather than the Libyan Government, what steps can the High Representative take to:

1. ensure that Syrian mercenaries formerly under the control of Turkey do not threaten the fragile situation in Niger and the Sahel?

2. ensure that no refugees from the camps in Libya are allowed to enter Europe?

3. hold Turkey to account for their actions in Libya, which further destabilise Libya but benefit Turkey’s strategy in the Eastern Mediterranean?