

**Question for written answer E-000074/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Mathilde Androuët (ID)**

**Subject:** Is compliance with the EU's fundamental values mandatory for all?

On 4 September, when investigations into the poisoning of Alexei Navalny were opened, Josep Borrell refused to rule out possible sanctions against Russia. There was no question of sanctions following the murders of Maltese journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia and Slovak investigative journalist Ján Kuciak, despite strong evidence that groups close to the governments of these two EU countries were implicated.

The silence on the situation in Montenegro also beggars belief. Since accession negotiations with Montenegro began in 2012 and while Milo Djukanović's 29-year rule continues, hope of a true democratic change of government following the parliamentary elections of 30 August 2020 remains undimmed, apart from intimidation and crackdowns against the opposition and the uninterrupted reign of organised crime. Mr Djukanović was named the most corrupt leader of 2015 by the Organised Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP).

What does the Commission intend to do to dispel the impression of leniency towards governments that do not respect the EU's fundamental values, as long as they are NATO members and look favourably on the Union?