

**Question for written answer E-002347/2021/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Donors' conference for a democratic Belarus

The EU must continue to support the people of Belarus in all possible ways, including through financial means. Although we welcome the measures taken so far, including the decision to redeploy EUR 53 million towards this cause, much more needs to be done.

In its conclusions of 12 October 2020, the European Council urged the Commission to prepare a comprehensive plan of economic support for a democratic Belarus, while in its September 2020 resolution, Parliament called on the EU to organise a donors' conference for Belarus.

Such a conference would bring together international financial institutions, G7 countries, EU Member States and institutions, and others willing to pledge a multi-billion euro financial package. It would provide a unique opportunity to support future reform towards democracy and to assist Belarusian society in making these changes.

Despite several enquiries about the development of this conference – including a letter to Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell from 15 October 2020 signed by 53 MEPs – we have not received any updates. Therefore, we would like to ask the Commission whether the EU External Action Service has indeed started developing plans for a donors' conference for Belarus, and when a tentative timeline might be ready.