

**Question for written answer E-004343/2021**

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

Rule 138

**Jordi Cañas** (Renew)

Subject: Urgent need to investigate Russian interference in the European Union

Recent police investigations highlighted in the media<sup>1</sup> have reinforced the suspicion that the Russian secret services have been involved in supporting the separatist process in Catalonia, as part of their strategy to destabilise the EU.

The British authorities have accused a member of the Russian military intelligence cell responsible for the poisoning in Salisbury of the double agent Sergei Skripal of attempted murder. The same agent was in Catalonia 48 hours before the illegal referendum of 1 October 2017, which is evidence of the link between Russian intelligence officials and the MEP and former President of the regional government of Catalonia Carles Puigdemont.

In the light of this new evidence, it is essential to act without delay and in a coordinated manner at European level in order to prevent these attempts to undermine our politics from damaging the Union as a whole.

In view of this, and further to Question E-004068/2021<sup>2</sup>:

Will the EEAS call for the opening of an investigation by the East StratCom Task Force, now more necessary than ever, into all information concerning Russian interference in European democracies?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.elmundo.es/cataluna/2021/09/21/614a1c90e4d4d845618b45c5.html>;  
<https://www.ft.com/content/294bcc73-e6b0-46da-905f-0fea3a7c12e9>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2021-004068\\_ES.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2021-004068_ES.html)