Question for written answer E-005264/2021 to the Commission Rule 138 Witold Jan Waszczykowski (ECR)

Subject: The Commission's decision to pay EUR 700 000 to the Lukashenko regime

The EU is to give EUR 700 000 to the unrecognised Lukashenko regime in connection the migration crisis at the EU's external borders, including the Polish border, which has been artificially created by Lukashenko and Putin. At the same time, the Commission has decided to suspend payment of funds due to Poland under the national recovery plan despite the absence of any formal objections to the claim.

There are reasonable indications to suspect that Lukashenko will use EU money for further hybrid activities against Poland, Lithuania and Latvia. It is irresponsible to reward the illegal and aggressive actions of the Lukashenko regime with a grant of EUR 700 000, which will only encourage this tyrant to continue in the same vein.

In light of the above:

- 1. Who decided to give EUR 700 000 to Lukashenko and which fund will the money come from?
- 2. Has the Commission obtained approval from the Member States to pay EUR 700 000 to the unrecognised Lukashenko regime, which is subject to EU sanctions?