

**Question for written answer E-005558/2021
to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs
and Security Policy**

Rule 138

Witold Jan Waszczykowski (ECR)

Subject: European strategic autonomy and military and technological cooperation with Russia

On 4 December 2021, France launched¹ French military satellites using Russian launchers. The companies Arianespace and Soyuz-Roscosmos cooperated on this launch.

Given Russia's continued aggression against Ukraine, including its occupation of Crimea which is unrecognised in the EU; given the current concentration of Russian forces – in excess of 100 000 troops – on Ukraine's border, including in illegally occupied territories; and given the numerous calls on the need for European strategic autonomy from EU leaders, including President Macron:

1. Does the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy believe that military cooperation with Russia at the expense of the US is in the EU's interest?
2. Does the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy believe that military and technological cooperation with Russia is compatible with the concept of European strategic autonomy?
3. In the Vice-President's of the Commission / High Representative's of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy opinion, does the cooperation described above signify that France has violated the sanctions imposed on Russia in connection with its aggression against Ukraine that began in 2014?

¹ <https://www.arianespace.com/mission/soyuz-flight-vs26/>