Question for written answer E-002322/2022
to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
Rule 138
Kostas Papadakis (NI)

Subject: Inadmissible ban on the Communist Party of Ukraine

A few days ago, Ukraine’s Sixth Administrative Court of Appeal upheld a ban on the Communist Party of Ukraine. This provocative ruling follows a decision to outlaw the party in December 2015 on the basis of laws criminalising communist ideology and actions and prohibiting the use of international communist symbols.

Following the 2014 coup, the retrograde legal framework provisions that had gradually entered into force after 1991 were further extended by the reactionary government that emerged in Ukraine, with the support of the EU, US and NATO, imposing restrictions on the Communist Party based on unsubstantiated and specious accusations. At the same time, nothing is being done to prevent fascist forces from targeting Communists and other activists. Indeed they are being hailed as heroes and are also being systematically recruited into the Ukrainian army.

Taking advantage of the state of emergency declared after the outbreak of the imperialist war in Ukraine, the government has decided to ban dozens of opposition parties.

Much of the responsibility for this lies with the official anti-communist stance adopted by the EU, a number of Member States having outlawed communist parties.

In the light of this, what view does the Vice-President of the European Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy take of the reactionary decision to ban the Communist Party of Ukraine and the criminalisation of communist ideology and what measures does he plan to take to address this problem?