Question for written answer E-002961/2022 to the Commission Rule 138 Jiří Pospíšil (PPE)

Subject: Evasion of EU sanctions by Ramzan Kadyrov, who is included on the EU sanctions list

The Czech media have described the case of the breeding stallion Dux Scholar, whose owner was originally Chechen President Ramzan Kadyrov. However, just before he was put on the EU sanctions list, he transferred ownership to his close associate and equine advisor Said Shaptukayev, who still owns the horse and is not on the EU sanctions list. The horse may therefore have been exported from the Czech Republic to Russia in recent days, where nothing is known about its fate. According to information that I have obtained, similar cases are also happening in other EU countries and, in addition to horses, they may also concern carnivores and breeding bulls.

- 1. Is the Commission aware of these deliberate efforts by persons on the EU sanctions list to evade sanctions?
- 2. What should be done in the event that a person on the EU sanctions list has deliberately transferred assets to a person not on the EU sanctions list?
- 3. Does the Commission take or intend to take systemic measures to prevent such cases of sanctions evasion?