

**Question for written answer E-003010/2022/rev.1**

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

Rule 138

**Anna Zalewska** (ECR)

Subject: EU foreign policy – statements by Joseph Borrell

At a conference in Prague on 5 September, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission (HR/VP) Josep Borrell Fontelles said:

‘We do not have a concrete plan to defeat the Russian fascist regime, but my task is more modest and is to help Ukraine in a united way and continue discussions with international actors to apply the adopted sanctions’.

On 7 September, referring to this clearly expressed position, the HR/VP’s spokesperson, Peter Stano, said that Mr Borrell’s statement had been ‘a quote and a translation error’.

This is highly controversial and raises a number of important questions:

1. Is the European Union’s foreign policy led by the duly mandated High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission? On what basis can the spokesperson undermine the HR/VP’s words when Mr Borrell himself did not consider that anything needed correcting?
2. Is Mr Borrell’s assessment of Russia the view of the Commission, and if so will appropriate action be taken against the terrorist, genocidal state that Russia has become?
3. Does the HR/VP intend to take the appropriate decisions to include Russia and the members of its highest authorities on the list of terrorist persons and entities in accordance with the Council Common Position 2001/931/CFSP of 27 December 2001 on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism?

Submitted: 8.9.2022