Question for written answer E-001060/2023/rev.1 to the Commission

**Rule 138** 

Tom Vandenkendelaere (PPE)

Subject: Implementation of the Windsor Framework

The Commission and the UK Government recently reached a political agreement in principle on a revised version of the Protocol on Ireland and Northern Ireland. The aim was to maintain the basic objective of the protocol, which is to safeguard the integrity of the internal market and the Good Friday Agreement. However, a watching brief still needs to be kept on the implementation of the Windsor Framework, in particular since safeguarding the internal market will be partly entrusted to the government of a third country and the 'Stormont Brake' will continue to pose risks. On the other hand, it opens doors for the Trade and Cooperation Agreement, which has much untapped potential, as well as structural dialogue and cooperation on foreign and security policy.

- 1. What is the Commission's assessment of the risks posed (1) by the UK Government's role in supervising the process of safeguarding the internal market and (2) by the Stormont Brake?
- 2. What steps can or will be taken by the Commission to establish a structured dialogue and/or cooperation on foreign and security policy in a way that ensures reciprocity of interests and gives rise to the commitments to be complied with in order to achieve such reciprocity?

Submitted: 28.3.2023