

**Question for written answer E-001287/2023  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Filip De Man** (ID)

Subject: Commission President's visit to China

On 6 April 2023, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen visited the President of the Communist People's Republic of China in the company of French President Macron.

During this visit, the Commission President profiled herself as a head of state by, among other things, addressing the relationship between China and the EU. However, the EU is more than just the Commission; it consists primarily of Member States, which are responsible for foreign affairs.

The President of the Commission clearly adopts a presidential style but without much democratic legitimacy and, in this regard, not infrequently competes with the President of the European Council, with powers being usurped in the process.

1. With what mandate did the Commission President travel to China?
2. Did the Commission President discuss the agenda of her visit to China with the European Council in advance?
3. Does the President of the Commission intend to take charge of the Union's foreign relations on her own, without consulting or seeking a mandate from the European Council?

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