

Question for written answer E-002727/2023

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

Rule 138

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Subject: EU policy towards Azerbaijan in the light of the ongoing blockade of the Lachin corridor

In the reply to Written Question E-002298/2023 regarding the situation around the Lachin corridor connecting Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (VP/HR) stated that he had conveyed Parliament's call for sanctions against Azerbaijan to the Foreign Affairs Council on 26 June 2023. In that same reply, the VP/HR said that the suspension of the memorandum of understanding on energy signed with Azerbaijan on 18 July 2022 was currently not being considered.

1. Does the VP/HR agree that, given the dire humanitarian situation in Nagorno-Karabakh and the aggressive rhetoric of the Azerbaijani regime¹, the EU must increase its efforts to prevent the situation from deteriorating further? What will the EU's next step be?
2. What is the state of play with regard to possible sanctions against the Azerbaijani officials involved in the widely condemned blockade of the Lachin corridor?
3. Does the VP/HR agree that the suspension of the memorandum of understanding should be reconsidered, given that it is precisely this memorandum of understanding that gives the regime in Baku the international legitimacy it uses to pursue its aggressive policy against the people of Nagorno-Karabakh? Could the VP/HR please explain the answer given to this question.

Submitted: 20.9.2023

¹ <https://twitter.com/VaqifS/status/1671979041023311875?s=20>.