

Question for written answer E-003137/2023

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: Ensuring diplomats on mission to the EU are not engaging in any activities that could be considered espionage

Europe is in a serious security situation. The EU plays a crucial role in maintaining peace and security. Protecting the Union's integrity is one of the main tasks of the EU institutions. This applies in particular to the European External Action Service.

According to international news reports, the *chargé d'affaires* of the Russian Mission to the EU, Kirill Logvinov, is suspected by the Belgian security and intelligence services (VSSE) of having spied on EU institutions. Despite the allegations from the VSSE, Kirill Logvinov has not been expelled from the EU.

In the current geopolitical situation, the EU must both act proactively and be ready to avert attempts from external forces to interfere within the Union.

I ask the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy the following:

1. What steps will the Vice-President / High Representative take to ensure that diplomats on mission to the EU are not engaging in any activities that could be considered espionage?
2. What access are diplomats, including Russian diplomats, granted through their diplomatic accreditation to the EU?

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