

**Question for written answer E-000843/2024**

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

Rule 138

**Engin Eroglu (Renew)**

Subject: EU Member States, NATO members and NATO partners supplying nitrocellulose to Russia for the manufacture of munitions

The Ukrainian 'Centre for Defense Reforms' has published a report entitled 'The Russian Ammunition Coalition: Who and How helps Russia to Produce Explosives'. In the report, it is stated that a substantial proportion of the nitrocellulose used by Russia to manufacture munitions comes from EU Member States, NATO members and NATO partners. According to the report, Germany is the third biggest supplier, with USD 3 937 962.53 worth of nitrocellulose supplied between 1 March and 31 December 2023 (in second place is Taiwan, with USD 5 425 152.34 and in fourth place is Türkiye, with USD 2 282 452.68). In addition, it is stated in the report that China began supplying Russia in 2022, and had become its biggest supplier by the end of 2023 (supplying USD 10 601 255.02 USD worth of nitrocellulose). The report emphasises that Russia is highly dependent on these supply streams, to the extent that if current nitrocellulose exports to Russia were to halt, Russia's ability to provide its armed forces with munitions and explosives would be significantly impaired<sup>1</sup>.

1. What information is available to the VP/HR to assess the accuracy of these figures?
2. What information does the VP/HR have about possible sanctions that could be imposed to prevent the supply of raw materials to Russia for the purpose of manufacturing munitions?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-economy/3832313-ukrainian-british-think-tanks-expose-imports-of-raw-materials-to-russia-for-ammo-production.html>