

**Question for written answer P-011424/2013
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**

Rule 117

Adrian Severin (NI)

Subject: VP/HR - The high significance of signing the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement in Vilnius

At the forthcoming Vilnius Summit the entire geo-strategic equilibrium between the Euro-Atlantic and Euro-Asiatic areas will be at stake. In this context the EU's strategic association with Ukraine is crucial.

Russia understands this geo-strategic game and is therefore exerting pressure on Ukraine to reject the Association Agreement with the EU. Russia's opposition puts the Vilnius Summit in a new geo-strategic perspective.

The first-ever clash between the EU's values-oriented doctrine and Russian geo-strategic action will take place at the Vilnius Summit. The future of the EU's credibility as global player depends on its victory in Vilnius, with the proof of that victory being the signing of the Association Agreement with Ukraine.

1. Does the VP/HR agree that the EU will not be able to successfully promote its values until such a time as it has won the geo-strategic race?
2. Does the VP/HR agree that, in the new geo-strategic context, the EU benchmarks on Ukraine must be revised and contextualised in line with the principle of *rebus sic stantibus*?
3. Is the EU ready to strike a compromise between the dissemination of its values and an effective geo-strategy by accepting that strategic associations between countries with different political cultures are sometimes possible and necessary, while looking at the Association Agreement with Ukraine as an instrument for achieving the convergence of values rather than the product of such convergence?