

**Question for written answer P-001464/2018
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Sabine Lösing (GUE/NGL) and Helmut Scholz (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: VP/HR - US plans to partition Syria

Last week, the Lebanese daily al-Akhbar, citing a leaked memo of the British Embassy in Washington, reported on a meeting of the 'Small American Group on Syria' at the British Embassy on 11 January 2018 attended by representatives of the United Kingdom, France, Jordan and Saudi Arabia. According to the newspaper report, the United States in particular is seeking the partition of Syria along the Euphrates. US diplomat David Satterfield explained to the participants the US plans to partition Syria and to permanently station US soldiers in the Kurdish-controlled areas east of the Euphrates. In addition, Satterfield stated that five points had been prepared for implementation:

- a) Syria is to be partitioned;
 - b) The talks in Sochi are to be made to fail;
 - c) Efforts are to be made to win Turkey over;
 - d) De Mistura is to be instructed to reactivate the Geneva talks;
 - e) The implementation of the eight-point paper is to serve as the basis for a political solution for Syria.
- 1) Are the VP/HR and the EEAS aware of these US plans and the participation/approval of some EU-Member States?
 - 2) What conclusions do the VP/HR and the EEAS draw from the US administration's plans in Syria which have now been disclosed and what options for action do they have?
 - 3) Is the EU still in favour of preserving the territorial integrity of Syria, which is contained in the 2017 EU Strategy for Syria as a strategic objective of the EU?