

**Priority question for written answer P-003502/2019
to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs
and Security Policy**

Rule 138

Ernest Urtasun (Verts/ALE)

Subject: VP/HR - Turkey's military offensive in north-eastern Syria

Turkey has launched a military offensive in the north-east of Syria, which, according to the EU, will further undermine stability throughout the region. This unilateral action is forcing people from their homes and a number of civilians have already been killed.

The so-called 'safe zone' that Turkey is keen to establish could give rise to serious breaches of international law if refugees – to whom the EU is providing financial support – are sent back against their will.

In the light of the foregoing:

1. Will the VP/HR be suggesting an EU-level arms embargo that goes beyond the one agreed to in the Council Conclusions of 14 October 2019?
2. Will the EEAS be carrying out any monitoring to ensure that Member States comply with common position 2008/944/CFSP?