Priority question for written answer P-000566/2022 to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 138 **Eugen Tomac** (PPE)

Subject: Monitoring human rights in the Transnistrian region

In 2022, 30 years have gone by since the beginning of the Transnistrian frozen conflict in what is now a Russian satellite area, positioned approximately 100 km away from the EU's closest border. The region is characterised by the continuous hostilities of the Russian Federation which is financing a separatist agenda and supports an illegitimate military presence, corruption and rampant anti-Western disinformation, thereby contributing to the region's instability.

- 1. How is the Vice-President / High Representative (VP/HR) planning to place the issue of the Transnistrian conflict higher up on the EU's foreign policy and security agenda, while aligning it with the broader strategic response to Russia's malign influence in the region?
- 2. Is the VP/HR planning to include the issue of the Transnistrian conflict in the bilateral and multilateral dialogues with Russia and to hold Moscow accountable for its violations of international law and OSCE principles and commitments?
- 3. While the Transnistrian region remains an isolated territory, with internal access strictly controlled by paramilitary organisations, and is not accessible to journalists, human rights defenders, international organisations or monitoring missions as a result, how are the VP/HR and the European External Action Service planning to improve the situation of human rights monitoring in the region? When will the list of persons responsible for human rights violations be updated?