

**Priority question for written answer P-004103/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: On the alleged involvement of VP/HR Borrell in the Qatargate scandal

Qatargate is continuing to shock Parliament and many MEPs could end up being involved<sup>1</sup>. Meanwhile, Ms Kaili's lawyer, Mr Michalis Dimitrakopoulos, said that Vice-President / High Representative (VP/HR) Josep Borrell 'had decided, at the Commission level, to cooperate with Qatar, Kuwait and Oman' in 2019<sup>2</sup>.

Qatar has been in the spotlight in recent years for bribing FIFA<sup>3</sup>, as well as for its poor human rights record exemplified by the fact that 'thousands of migrant workers reportedly died and many more were injured during construction works related to the World Cup in Qatar'<sup>4</sup>.

We now know that Qatar 'weaponised NGOs, Unions, individuals, assistants and Members of the European Parliament in an effort to subdue our processes'<sup>5</sup>.

1. Will the Commission review and make public all meetings, trips and communications between its officials, including VP/HR Borrell and VP Schinas and their teams, and the Qatari emirate?
2. Will the Commission maintain normal relations with Qatar while the scandal is being investigated?
3. What legislative proposals on transparency will the Commission propose in order to avoid similar cases in the future?

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.corriere.it/politica/22\\_dicembre\\_15/qatargate-panzeri-007-8c9beba2-7bf7-11ed-a244-0877c18473f0.shtml](https://www.corriere.it/politica/22_dicembre_15/qatargate-panzeri-007-8c9beba2-7bf7-11ed-a244-0877c18473f0.shtml).

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.euractiv.com/section/politics/news/lawyer-claims-eva-kaili-followed-eu-parliament-chiefs-orders-in-qatar/>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/06/sports/soccer/qatar-and-russia-bribery-world-cup-fifa.html>.

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0427\\_EN.html](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2022-0427_EN.html).

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20221212IPR64532/ep-president-metsola-on-the-ongoing-investigations-by-belgian-authorities>.