

**Priority question for written answer P-000455/2024/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Marek Belka (S&D)

Subject: European multinationals still operating in Russia – next steps

Russia's aggression against Ukraine has not only led the EU to adopt a united approach and agree on many sanctions packages to respond to Putin's war. It has also led many European companies to leave Russia so that the taxes they pay in Russia do not support Putin's war effort.

Despite this, many companies – including large, multinational companies – have stayed in Russia. Not only are they undermining the efforts of the EU's Member States and citizens to cut off Russia from Western funds, they are even compromising our work because they are doing business and paying taxes in Russia, thus aiding Putin.

At a time when our citizens feel the need to support Ukrainians, some European multinationals are supporting Putin's war machine, prolonging the war.

Commissioner Sinkevičius recently said: 'We still have companies that don't care and remain in Russia. Why don't we talk about taxing them?'

1. Is the Commission considering addressing this irresponsible and mainly profit-oriented behaviour by European multinationals and imposing additional taxes on them?
2. What steps can the Commission take in respect of EU multinationals doing business in Russia to ensure that they leave Russia and stop financially supporting Putin?

Submitted: 12.2.2024