

Question for written answer E-015440/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Andrejs Mamikins (S&D)

Subject: The future of EU-Belarus relations

Following the first visit since 2002 by a European Parliament delegation to the Republic of Belarus on 18 and 19 June 2015, the sequence of events represented by (i) the pardon on 23 August of six opposition figures, (ii) a much more positive than usual reaction to the latest presidential elections in Belarus on the part of EU officials and politicians, and (iii) the subsequent suspension of sanctions for four months, can be seen as a general warming-up between Brussels and Minsk of a kind not previously seen in years.

While the development of stable, unhindered, productive relations between the two parties is still a long way off, this long-overdue opportunity is now very much within our grasp.

1. Is the Commission already considering a re-initialling of the updated EU-Belarus Partnership and Cooperation Agreement and further ratification talks?
2. What steps does the Commission plan to take in order to achieve additional stabilisation and the subsequent development of EU-Belarus relations?
3. In the Commission's view, how could EU-Belarus relations progress up to the end of this decade, should the present positive dynamics be maintained and built upon in a productive way?