

**Question for written answer E-015390/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Jiří Maštálka (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Moldova and the Petrenko case

Given that the EU has an association agreement with Moldova and bearing in mind that the EU has, among other things, an indicative budget for the period 2014-2020 of EUR 610 million for aid for Moldova in the framework of three priority projects, and that these priorities allegedly include, for 2015, the reform of the judicial system, public administration and the police, how is our loudly trumpeted concern with the protection of human rights and freedoms projected in our talks and relations with Moldovan government institutions?

In my opinion, this concern is incompatible with the passivity of EU bodies in the case of Grigory Petrenko, a Moldovan opposition leader who has been illegally detained, harassed and persecuted. In contrast to the unusually active support which it gave, for example, to the Russian oligarch Khodorkovsky and to the controversial opposition in Ukraine (including to neo-fascist elements) prior to and during the Maidan events, the EU has looked on in total silence in the case of Mr Petrenko.

What concrete action will the Commission take in order to uphold the rule of law and protect the human rights of this opposition politician, and thereby avoid any suspicion of double standards and expediency with regard to these values?