



Member of the European Parliament

Strasbourg, 5 October 2016

Dear Mr JAVORČÍK,

In our Parliamentary Questions to the Council (E-004653/2016), we asked the Council about deliberations on partnerships with countries in the Horn of Africa to link EU financial resources to stopping the flow of migrants coming from those countries.

The Council's reply dated 26 September 2016 dismisses the questions by referring only to Article 218 TFEU type agreements and denies that such agreements were ever subject of deliberation. This is not a sufficient answer as the partnerships concerned can take many forms, such as is the case with the EU-Turkey Statement.

We would kindly like to insist that the Slovak Presidency provide us with substantial answers to the questions concerned within the shortest delay possible:

Does the Council believe that it has respected the principle of mutual sincere cooperation in considering partnerships of agreements with countries in Africa, regardless of its intended form, given that Parliament was neither consulted nor informed of their existence?

Does the Council ensure that EU funds allocated under any action plan will not be used to repress civil populations?

Does the Council ensure that such agreements, partnerships or forms or cooperation respect Article 3 of the TEU on the objectives of the EU to protect human rights and strictly observe international law, including the right to seek asylum?

Yours sincerely,

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