

From: VAIDERE Inese
Sent: 05 April 2016 11:58
To: SCHULZ Martin, President
Cc: MORIN-CHARTIER Elisabeth; BROK Elmar; FERBER Markus
Subject: An EP delegation to the occupied Crimea

Dear President Schulz,

There has been an information published in the Russian language Latvian media that **a delegation from the European Parliament is planning to visit Crimea for participation in the Yalta Economic Forum**. The mentioned forum will be held in the Ukrainian territory of Crimea currently under Russian occupation from 14 to 16 April. According to organisers (as said in the article), it is expected a delegation from the EP will be among the participants. Mr. Brok, the chair of the committee has denied that the Foreign Affairs committee would be planning such a visit.

Provided, that the European Parliament on multiple occasions, including the latest resolution of 4 February 2016, **has condemned the illegal annexation by Russia of the Crimean peninsula** and military intervention in Eastern Ukraine, it would be **unacceptable for the EP to organise or finance any kind of delegation to Crimea**. Please let me remind you that, following the occupation of Crimea, the European Parliament suspended the work of the EU-Russia Parliamentary Cooperation Committee.

I would therefore, like to inquire, **whether the information available in the Russian language media** could be correct and there is indeed some kind of delegation planned to the occupied Crimean peninsula? Furthermore, in case of members wishing to participate individually, would such activities be authorised and financed from the Members' Additional travel budget? Given, that this budget is designed to finance activities linked to the exercise of the mandate as a MEP, I believe, under no circumstances should such visit be financed from the EU public funds.

Yours sincerely,
Inese Vaidere MEP