

**Question for written answer E-004466/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: The free trade agreement with the UAE, the war in Sudan and the EU's responsibility under international law

Tens of thousands of people have been killed in the conflict in Sudan since 2023, and more than 30 million are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. The UN and a number of human rights organisations have reported widespread abuses against the civilian population, including suspected war crimes.

The UAE is playing a decisive role in the war by supporting the RSF, one of the parties to the conflict. At the same time, closer economic links are being forged between the EU and the UAE, and a free trade agreement could well be signed in the near future.

The conclusion of an agreement with a state that is helping to prolong a conflict involving serious crimes in violation of international law is not compatible with the EU's obligations under Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union, which stipulates that the Union's external action must be based on respect for human rights, international law and peace.

In the light of the foregoing:

1. Does the Commission intend to suspend the negotiations on a free trade agreement with the UAE until the country stops supporting the RSF in Sudan?
2. What political, diplomatic or economic tools does the Commission have at its disposal to influence the UAE's actions in Sudan, and how does it intend to use them in practice?
3. How will the Commission ensure that a future trade agreement with the UAE meets the EU's obligations under Article 21 of the Treaty on European Union?

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