

Amtsblatt der Europäischen Union

C 221



Ausgabe
in deutscher Sprache

Mitteilungen und Bekanntmachungen

57. Jahrgang

11. Juli 2014

Inhalt

IV *Informationen*

INFORMATIONEN DER ORGANE, EINRICHTUNGEN UND SONSTIGEN STELLEN DER
EUROPÄISCHEN UNION

Europäisches Parlament

ANFRAGEN ZUR SCHRIFTLICHEN BEANTWORTUNG MIT ANTWORT

2014/C 221/01

Anfragen der Mitglieder des Europäischen Parlaments zur schriftlichen Beantwortung und die
entsprechenden Antworten eines Organs der Europäischen Union 1

(Siehe Hinweis für den Leser)

DE

Hinweis für den Leser

Diese Veröffentlichung enthält Anfragen der Mitglieder des Europäischen Parlaments zur schriftlichen Beantwortung und die entsprechenden Antworten eines Organs der Europäischen Union.

Jede Anfrage und ihre Antwort werden zunächst in der Originalsprache und anschließend in den eventuellen Übersetzungen angegeben.

In einigen Fällen kann es vorkommen, dass die Antwort in einer anderen Sprache verfasst ist als die Anfrage. Dies hängt von der Arbeitssprache des Gremiums ab, das mit der Beantwortung beauftragt wurde.

Die vorliegenden Anfragen und Antworten werden gemäß den Artikeln 117 und 118 der Geschäftsordnung des Europäischen Parlaments veröffentlicht.

Alle Anfragen und Antworten sind auf der Internetseite des Europäischen Parlaments (Europarl) unter der Rubrik „parlamentarische Anfragen“ verfügbar:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/de/parliamentary-questions.html>

ABKÜRZUNGEN DER FRAKTIONEN

PPE Fraktion der Europäischen Volkspartei (Christdemokraten)

S&D Fraktion der Progressiven Allianz der Sozialisten und Demokraten im Europäischen Parlament

ALDE Fraktion der Allianz der Liberalen und Demokraten für Europa

Verts/ALE Fraktion der Grünen/Freie Europäische Allianz

ECR Europäische Konservative und Reformisten

GUE/NGL Konföderale Fraktion der Vereinigten Europäischen Linken/Nordische Grüne Linke

EFD Fraktion „Europa der Freiheit und der Demokratie“

NI Fraktionslos

IV

(Informationen)

INFORMATIONEN DER ORGANE, EINRICHTUNGEN UND SONSTIGEN
STELLEN DER EUROPÄISCHEN UNION

EUROPÄISCHES PARLAMENT

ANFRAGEN ZUR SCHRIFTLICHEN BEANTWORTUNG MIT ANTWORT

Anfragen der Mitglieder des Europäischen Parlaments zur schriftlichen Beantwortung
und die entsprechenden Antworten eines Organs der Europäischen Union

(2014/C 221/01)

Inhalt	Seite
P-010755/13 by Tonino Picula to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Support for regional airports	
Hrvatska verzija	27
English version	28
E-011726/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> APROSYS Project	
Version française	29
English version	30
E-011727/13 by Marc Tarabella and Jean Louis Cottigny to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Shale gas	
Version française	31
English version	32
E-012000/13 by Elena Băsescu to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> The Commission submits a list of 250 infrastructure projects eligible for funding to the value of EUR 5.85 billion	
Versiunea în limba română	33
English version	34
E-012002/13 by Ramon Tremosa i Balcells to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> TEN-T guidelines, cost-benefit analysis, passenger volumes and economic sustainability of Spanish high-speed rail (AVE) routes	
Versión española	35
English version	37
E-012003/13 by Glenis Willmott to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Fructose	
English version	39

E-012473/13 by James Nicholson to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Acceptance of fructose	
English version	39
E-012004/13 by Chris Davies to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> United Kingdom's implementation of the Birds Directive	
English version	40
E-012005/13 by Jarosław Leszek Wałęsa to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Access to hazardous weight-loss substances on the EU market	
Wersja polska	41
English version	43
P-012006/13 by Eleni Theocharous to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> School trips to occupied Cyprus	
Ελληνική έκδοση	44
English version	45
E-012010/13 by Willy Meyer to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Elections to the Agriculture Council in Spain	
Versión española	46
English version	47
E-012013/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Differences in fuel prices between EU Member States	
Ελληνική έκδοση	48
English version	49
P-012016/13 by Christine De Veyrac to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Galileo programme	
Version française	50
English version	51
E-012018/13 by Angelika Werthmann to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> The big energy report	
Deutsche Fassung	52
English version	54
P-013072/13 by Kathleen Van Brempt to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Amount of energy subsidies per energy source	
Nederlandse versie	53
English version	54
E-012019/13 by Angelika Werthmann to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> The allegedly 'unreliable' figures in the energy report	
Deutsche Fassung	55
English version	56
E-012020/13 by Angelika Werthmann to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Commissioner Oettinger's list	
Deutsche Fassung	57
English version	58
E-012021/13 by Angelika Werthmann to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> France's new economic policy	
Deutsche Fassung	59
English version	60
E-012022/13 by Angelika Werthmann to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Funding of animal welfare in Romania	
Deutsche Fassung	61
English version	62

E-012024/13 by Angelika Werthmann to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Governmental crisis in Italy — loss of confidence	
Deutsche Fassung	63
English version	64
E-012025/13 by Angelika Werthmann to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Quality differences in expert opinions in court	
Deutsche Fassung	65
English version	66
E-012026/13 by Monica Luisa Macovei to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Russia's trade restrictions on EU Member States and on Eastern Partnership countries	
Versiunea în limba română	67
English version	68
E-012028/13 by Claudette Abela Baldacchino to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Early school leaving	
Verżjoni Maltija	69
English version	70
E-012029/13 by Sandra Petrović Jakovina to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Safety- related issues in air navigation service provision	
Hrvatska verzija	71
English version	72
E-012030/13 by Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Dumping emergency in the 'land of fires'	
Versione italiana	73
English version	76
E-012131/13 by Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris, Cristiana Muscardini, Alfredo Antoniozzi, Aldo Patriciello, Clemente Mastella, Crescenzo Rivellini and Salvatore Tatarella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> 'Terra dei fuochi' dumping emergency	
Versione italiana	73
English version	76
E-012244/13 by Oreste Rossi to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Land of fires: illegal bonfires and landfills	
Versione italiana	74
English version	77
E-012031/13 by Laurence J.A.J. Stassen to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Commissioner Füle: 'momentum' behind accession negotiations	
Nederlandse versie	78
English version	79
P-012032/13 by Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Women's underrepresentation in science	
Ελληνική έκδοση	80
English version	82
P-012033/13 by Erik Bánki to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Alternative mining project at Krumovgrad	
Magyar változat	83
English version	84
E-012034/13 by Gaston Franco to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Energy consumption of smartphones	
Version française	85
English version	86
E-012035/13 by Jean-Luc Mélenchon to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Is the Council taking orders from Mrs Merkel?	
Version française	87
English version	88

E-012036/13 by Erik Bánki to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Jobs for young people in tourism	
Magyar változat	89
English version	90
E-012037/13 by Filip Kaczmarek to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Complaint fees charged by air carriers	
Wersja polska	91
English version	92
P-012038/13 by Paul Murphy to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Israeli Government on Horizon 2020	
English version	93
P-012039/13 by Marietje Schaake to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Supply of tear gas to the Bahraini Government	
Nederlandse versie	94
English version	96
E-012042/13 by Ingeborg Gräßle to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> OLAF investigations: Greek Office for Vocational Education and Training (OEEK) — OF/2011/0704	
Deutsche Fassung	97
English version	99
E-012043/13 by Charalampos Angourakis to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Intensified use of the 'Law and Order' doctrine against the working people's movement	
Ελληνική έκδοση	101
English version	102
E-012045/13 by Nikolaos Salavrakos to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Defence industry closures in Greece	
Ελληνική έκδοση	103
English version	104
E-012046/13 by Nikolaos Salavrakos to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Excessive charges for private cars in Greece	
Ελληνική έκδοση	105
English version	106
E-012047/13 by Nikolaos Salavrakos to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> European Commission Notice using the term 'Macedonia' for 'Skopje'	
Ελληνική έκδοση	107
English version	108
E-012048/13 by Sandrine Bélier to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Safety assessment of MON810: invalidation of a Monsanto result by a European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) expert	
Version française	109
English version	111
E-012049/13 by Sandrine Bélier to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Safety assessment of MON810	
Version française	109
English version	111
E-012050/13 by Adam Bielan to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — request by the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Russia to return the crashed TU-154	
Wersja polska	113
English version	114
E-012051/13 by Adam Bielan to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — comments by the Russian ambassador to the EU on Poland	
Wersja polska	115
English version	116

E-012053/13 by Ramon Tremosa i Balcells to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Additional cost of S-80 submarine	
Versión española	117
English version	118
E-012055/13 by Monica Luisa Macovei to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Belgian Internet providers imposing residence conditions on new clients	
Versiunea în limba română	119
English version	120
E-012056/13 by Salvatore Tatarella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Management of the ESM bailout fund	
Versione italiana	121
English version	122
E-012058/13 by Mara Bizzotto to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Online sale of kits for producing fake Italian cheeses	
Versione italiana	123
English version	125
P-012059/13 by Struan Stevenson to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> European mountain quality label	
English version	126
E-012061/13 by Salvador Sedó i Alabart to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> The reality of youth unemployment in Europe	
Versión española	127
English version	128
E-012063/13 by Angelika Werthmann to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Lack of filters in flag factory	
Deutsche Fassung	129
English version	130
E-012064/13 by Angelika Werthmann to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Women and poverty in old age	
Deutsche Fassung	131
English version	132
E-012066/13 by Angelika Werthmann to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Resumption of the negotiations with Turkey	
Deutsche Fassung	133
English version	134
E-012067/13 by Gaston Franco to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Accession of Turkey	
Version française	135
English version	136
E-012068/13 by Rainer Wieland to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Electronic declaration and export procedure/VAT refund	
Deutsche Fassung	137
English version	139
E-012069/13 by Iñaki Irazabalbeitia Fernández to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Y Vasca and European funding	
Versión española	140
English version	141
E-012071/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Gilding the pill	
Ελληνική έκδοση	142
English version	143

E-012072/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Confiscation of the property of 17 historical monasteries in Turkey	
Ελληνική έκδοση	144
English version	145
E-012074/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Illegal occupation of three Greek Orthodox churches and their property in Karaköy/Galata (Istanbul)	
Ελληνική έκδοση	144
English version	145
E-012073/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Elimination of unfounded negative claims in history textbooks in Turkey	
Ελληνική έκδοση	146
English version	147
E-012075/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Lack of any reference to sexual rights in the European Union's health programmes	
Version française	148
English version	149
E-012076/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Access to information about HIV pregnancies	
Version française	150
English version	151
E-012078/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Sexual rights and cooperation	
Version française	152
English version	153
E-012079/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Guidance plan	
Version française	154
English version	155
E-012080/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> A holistic approach to sexual and reproductive health and rights and HIV	
Version française	156
English version	157
E-012081/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Automated execution rate for European Union pre-accession projects	
Version française	158
English version	159
E-012082/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Europe 2020 progress report	
Version française	160
English version	161
E-012083/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Convergence process within the European Semester	
Version française	162
English version	163
E-012084/13 by Marc Tarabella and Jean Louis Cottigny to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Social impact of reforms	
Version française	164
English version	165
E-012085/13 by Marc Tarabella and Jean Louis Cottigny to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> A more social Economic and Monetary Union	
Version française	166
English version	167

E-012086/13 by Marc Tarabella and Jean Louis Cottigny to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Parliament and the European Semester	
Version française	168
English version	169
E-012087/13 by Marc Tarabella and Jean Louis Cottigny to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Quality framework for traineeships	
Version française	170
English version	171
E-012089/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Conflict in the Sahel	
Version française	172
English version	173
E-012090/13 by Laurence J.A.J. Stassen to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Egemen Bağı: 'Do not publish the Turkey progress report on a religious holiday'	
Nederlandse versie	174
English version	175
E-012092/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Amount of paper used by the Commission's translation service	
Deutsche Fassung	176
English version	177
E-012093/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Council	
<i>Subject:</i> Translator salaries in the Council	
Deutsche Fassung	178
English version	179
E-012094/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Translators' salaries in the Commission	
Deutsche Fassung	180
English version	181
E-012095/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Costs of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) for the Reitox information network	
Deutsche Fassung	182
English version	184
E-012106/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Staff at the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction	
Deutsche Fassung	182
English version	184
E-012108/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Restaurant costs of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)	
Deutsche Fassung	182
English version	184
E-012111/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Training costs of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)	
Deutsche Fassung	183
English version	185
E-012096/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Staff costs of the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA)	
Deutsche Fassung	186
English version	187
E-012105/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Operational expenditures of the European Railway Agency (ERA)	
Deutsche Fassung	188
English version	190

E-012110/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Meetings and associated costs of the European Railway Agency (ERA)	
Deutsche Fassung	188
English version	190
E-012116/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Movable property and associated costs of the European Railway Agency (ERA)	
Deutsche Fassung	188
English version	190
E-012107/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Composition of the staff of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT)	
Deutsche Fassung	192
English version	194
E-012109/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Security and surveillance costs of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT)	
Deutsche Fassung	192
English version	194
E-012119/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Missions of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT)	
Deutsche Fassung	192
English version	194
E-012146/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Properties of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT)	
Deutsche Fassung	193
English version	195
E-012112/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Publishing costs of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound)	
Deutsche Fassung	196
English version	198
E-012113/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Web publishing costs of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound)	
Deutsche Fassung	196
English version	198
E-012115/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Costs of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound) for events and exhibitions	
Deutsche Fassung	196
English version	198
E-012149/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Buildings costs of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound)	
Deutsche Fassung	197
English version	199
E-012114/13 by Hans-Peter Martin to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Horizontal operations of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)	
Deutsche Fassung	200
English version	201
E-012123/13 by Angelika Werthmann to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Financial and political aspects of the resumption of negotiations with Turkey	
Deutsche Fassung	202
English version	203

P-012124/13 by Wojciech Michał Olejniczak to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Status of complaints CHAP(2013) 02744 and 2013/090949	
Wersja polska	204
English version	205
E-012125/13 by Fiorello Provera and Charles Tannock to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — Murder of German Embassy employee	
Versione italiana	206
English version	207
E-012126/13 by Fiorello Provera and Charles Tannock to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — Executions in the Islamic Republic of Iran	
Versione italiana	208
English version	209
E-012129/13 by Fiorello Provera and Charles Tannock to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — Problem of slavery in Mauritania	
Versione italiana	210
English version	211
E-012130/13 by Fiorello Provera and Charles Tannock to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> China's water crisis	
Versione italiana	212
English version	213
E-012132/13 by Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> France halts high-speed rail works	
Versione italiana	214
English version	215
E-012133/13 by Mario Borghezio to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Europol investigation into the trafficking of children for their organs	
Versione italiana	216
English version	217
E-012134/13 by Laurence J.A.J. Stassen to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Egemen Bağış: 'Turkey close to EU standards'	
Nederlandse versie	218
English version	220
E-012137/13 by Laurence J.A.J. Stassen to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Egemen Bağış: 'Many EU Member States are performing less well than Turkey'	
Nederlandse versie	218
English version	220
E-012138/13 by Laurence J.A.J. Stassen to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Egemen Bağış: 'The Turkey progress report is not a scorecard'	
Nederlandse versie	219
English version	221
E-012135/13 by Laurence J.A.J. Stassen to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Egemen Bağış: 'Violence is not a means to claim one's rights'	
Nederlandse versie	222
English version	223
E-012136/13 by Laurence J.A.J. Stassen to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Egemen Bağış: 'EU membership a concrete objective for Turkey'	
Nederlandse versie	224
English version	225
E-012139/13 by Laurence J.A.J. Stassen to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Egemen Bağış: 'Freedom of expression situation is fine'	
Nederlandse versie	226
English version	227

P-012140/13 by Emilie Turunen to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Prepaid cards	
Dansk udgave	228
English version	229
P-012141/13 by Karima Delli to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> EU response to health risks posed by mercury in dental amalgams	
Version française	230
English version	232
E-012144/13 by Raül Romeva i Rueda to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Project bonds for the Castor project	
Versión española	233
English version	234
E-012145/13 by Ramon Tremosa i Balcells to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Renewable energy in Spain: 2020 target	
Versión española	235
English version	236
E-012147/13 by Marietje Schaake to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> ACTA provisions in the EU-Singapore trade agreement text	
Nederlandse versie	237
English version	239
E-012148/13 by Brian Simpson to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Hen harrier decline in North West England	
English version	241
E-012151/13 by Robert Goebbels to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Tax on fuel	
Version française	242
English version	243
P-012153/13 by William to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> EU investigation into Gibraltar tax system	
English version	244
E-012154/13 by Ramon Tremosa i Balcells to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Buying and selling of organs in the EU	
Versión española	245
English version	246
E-012155/13 by Ramon Tremosa i Balcells to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Energy objectives for 2020	
Versión española	247
English version	248
E-012156/13 by Monica Luisa Macovei to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Follow-up to the Decade of Roma Inclusion	
Versiunea în limba română	249
English version	250
E-012157/13 by Syed Kamall to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Attacks on protestors in Egypt	
English version	251
E-012158/13 by Syed Kamall to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Rights of the LGBT community in Lithuania and Latvia	
English version	252
E-012160/13 by Syed Kamall to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Protection of ortolans in France	
English version	253

E-012164/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Air pollution classified as carcinogenic	
Version française	254
English version	255
E-012165/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> STOP the bonuses	
Version française	256
English version	257
E-012166/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Green electronics	
Version française	258
English version	259
E-012169/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Samsung concessions	
Version française	260
English version	261
E-012170/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Crowdfunding	
Version française	262
English version	263
E-012171/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> POWERDRIVER	
Version française	264
English version	265
E-012173/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Baby wipes warning	
Version française	266
English version	268
E-012174/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Ships' graveyard	
Version française	269
English version	270
E-012175/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> EU-Canada agreements	
Version française	271
English version	272
E-012176/13 by Lidia Joanna Geringer de Oedenberg to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Functioning of the European Arrest Warrant and opportunities for its enforcement	
Wersja polska	273
English version	274
E-012177/13 by Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> The wine sector	
Versiunea în limba română	275
English version	276
P-012178/13 by Ryszard Antoni Legutko to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Promoting gender ideology	
Wersja polska	277
English version	278
E-012180/13 by Charles Tannock and Fiorello Provera to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — Sultanate of Brunei to extend use of Sharia law	
Versione italiana	279
English version	280

E-012181/13 by Martin Häusling to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Proposal for a regulation on the production and making available on the market of plant reproductive material (plant reproductive material law)	
Deutsche Fassung	281
English version	282
E-012184/13 by Paolo De Castro to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Uniform application of authorisations for plant protection products	
Versione italiana	283
English version	284
P-012185/13 by Jim Higgins to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Funding for environmental projects in 2014	
English version	285
P-012187/13 by Raffaele Baldassarre to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Olive tree disease in Puglia	
Versione italiana	286
English version	288
P-012314/13 by Paolo De Castro to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Measures to contain bacterium infecting olive trees	
Versione italiana	286
English version	288
E-012188/13 by Mara Bizzotto to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Food scandal in the EU: pigs' intestines sold as calamari	
Versione italiana	290
English version	291
E-012189/13 by Matteo Salvini to the Council	
<i>Subject:</i> Construction of the new Council building	
Versione italiana	292
English version	293
E-012190/13 by Kathleen Van Brempt to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Evaluation procedure for the construction of the Hinkley Point C nuclear power station	
Nederlandse versie	294
English version	295
E-012191/13 by Kathleen Van Brempt to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Cost estimate and timescales for the construction of a nuclear power station in the UK	
Nederlandse versie	296
English version	297
E-012192/13 by Kathleen Van Brempt to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Construction of a European pressurised reactor (EPR) at Hinkley Point C	
Nederlandse versie	298
English version	299
E-012193/13 by Kathleen Van Brempt to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Chinese participation in the Hinkley Point C project	
Nederlandse versie	300
English version	301
E-012196/13 by Andrew Henry William Brons to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Treaty of 8 April 1965	
English version	302
E-012197/13 by Glenis Willmott, Catherine Stihler and Brian Simpson to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Method of slaughter labelling and Sikhism	
English version	303

E-012198/13 by Julie Girling to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Follow-up on vehicle defects and accidents	
English version	304
E-012200/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Danger posed by 'patent trolls'	
Version française	305
English version	306
E-012206/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — Imprisoned blogger	
Version française	307
English version	308
E-012207/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — Russia and its migrants	
Version française	309
English version	310
E-012208/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — Syrians in Egypt	
Version française	311
English version	312
E-012210/13 by Franz Obermayr to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> EU enlargement in the Balkans/Turkey	
Deutsche Fassung	313
English version	314
E-012211/13 by Tadeusz Cymański, Jacek Włosowicz, Jacek Olgierd Kurski and Zbigniew Ziobro to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Environmental problems in Bulgaria	
Wersja polska	315
English version	316
E-012212/13 by Franz Obermayr to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Awarding of contracts in Bulgaria — construction of the 'Arena Armeec' sports hall	
Deutsche Fassung	317
English version	318
E-012213/13 by Jean-Pierre Audy and Michel Dantin to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Draft free trade agreement between the European Union and Canada	
Version française	319
English version	320
E-012214/13 by Elena Băsescu to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Commission Work Programme for 2014	
Versiunea în limba română	321
English version	322
E-012215/13 by Josefa Andrés Barea and María Muñoz De Urquiza to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> The application of the directive on cogeneration	
Versión española	323
English version	324
E-012216/13 by Jim Higgins to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Funding for environmental projects	
English version	325
E-012217/13 by Monica Luisa Macovei to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Reduction in investment by local authorities	
Versiunea în limba română	326
English version	327

E-012218/13 by Monica Luisa Macovei to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — Financial restrictions on senior Sudanese officials responsible for serious human rights breaches	
Versiunea în limba română	328
English version	329
E-012220/13 by Josefa Andrés Barea to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> The current situation of the Ciudad de la Luz complex in Alicante	
Versión española	330
English version	331
E-012221/13 by Laurence J.A.J. Stassen to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Follow-up questions (4) concerning subsidies granted to Egypt	
Nederlandse versie	332
English version	333
E-012222/13 by Ramon Tremosa i Balcells to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Unsustainable private debt	
Versión española	334
English version	335
E-012223/13 by Rachida Dati to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Relevance of the REFIT programme for harmonising energy policy	
Version française	336
English version	338
P-012225/13 by Lena Kolarska-Bobińska to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Declining bee population in Europe	
Wersja polska	339
English version	340
E-012226/13 by Ramon Tremosa i Balcells to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Medication for chronically ill patients	
Versión española	341
English version	342
E-012228/13 by Franz Obermayr to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Revision of the Air Passenger Rights Regulation	
Deutsche Fassung	343
English version	344
E-012229/13 by Ivo Belet, Alojz Peterle and Glenis Willmott to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> ATMP (advanced therapy medicinal product) treatments	
Nederlandse versie	345
Slovenska različica	347
English version	348
P-012231/13 by Tonino Picula to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Support for the fisheries sector	
Hrvatska verzija	350
English version	351
E-012233/13 by Georgios Koumoutsakos to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Announcement of Turkey democratisation package/reopening of Chakli Seminary	
Ελληνική έκδοση	352
English version	353
E-012234/13 by Andreas Mölzer to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Actual Internet capacity and its regional distribution	
Deutsche Fassung	354
English version	355

E-012236/13 by Andreas Mölzer to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> NSA scandal — reading of emails	
Deutsche Fassung	356
English version	357
E-012238/13 by Andreas Mölzer to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> E-Government — data security	
Deutsche Fassung	358
English version	359
P-012239/13 by Claudio Morganti to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> EU funding for integration of Roma	
Versione italiana	360
English version	361
P-012240/13 by Pablo Zalba Bidegain to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Exclusion of children from a leisure programme	
Versión española	362
English version	363
E-012241/13 by Oreste Rossi to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> EU aid for the developing world	
Versione italiana	364
English version	366
E-012242/13 by Oreste Rossi to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Chemotherapy: which drugs may be harmful to health	
Versione italiana	367
English version	368
E-012243/13 by Oreste Rossi to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> New technology for vacuuming urban smog	
Versione italiana	369
English version	370
E-012245/13 by Oreste Rossi to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> New devices for delivering drugs via light impulses	
Versione italiana	371
English version	372
P-012246/13 by Nessa Childers to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Industrial wind turbines	
English version	373
P-012247/13 by Juan Fernando López Aguilar to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> European Social Fund assistance for the Canaries	
Versión española	374
English version	375
E-012248/13 by Andrea Cozzolino to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> ‘Cava Spinelli’ landfill in Quarto (province of Naples)	
Versione italiana	376
English version	377
E-012249/13 by Matteo Salvini to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Clarifications regarding applications for the E-1 visa for trade and investment in the United States	
Versione italiana	378
English version	379
E-012338/13 by Franz Obermayr to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Regulation implementing the Ecodesign Directive — reduced power of vacuum cleaners	
Deutsche Fassung	380
English version	382

E-012250/13 by Patricia van der Kammen to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Commission's action regarding the power rating of vacuum cleaners	
Nederlandse versie	381
English version	382
E-012251/13 by Georgios Koumoutsakos to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> New Trans-European Transport Networks/need for information and know-how on effective take-up of Community resources to be passed to cohesion countries	
Ελληνική έκδοση	384
English version	385
E-012257/13 by Andreas Mölzer to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Cyprus — reform of the banking sector	
Deutsche Fassung	386
English version	387
E-012258/13 by Andreas Mölzer to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Summer time all year round	
Deutsche Fassung	388
English version	389
E-012259/13 by Andreas Mölzer to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Child trafficking for the purpose of welfare fraud by Roma and Sinti	
Deutsche Fassung	390
English version	391
E-012260/13 by Andreas Mölzer to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Traces of pharmaceutical products in water	
Deutsche Fassung	392
English version	393
E-012261/13 by Andreas Mölzer to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Cloud computing strategy	
Deutsche Fassung	394
English version	395
E-012262/13 by Andreas Mölzer to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Strategy for improving health literacy	
Deutsche Fassung	396
English version	397
E-012264/13 by Angelika Niebler to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Intra-Union mail order and excise goods	
Deutsche Fassung	398
English version	399
E-012672/13 by Fiorello Provera and Charles Tannock to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — Yemeni girl burned to death	
Versione italiana	400
English version	403
E-012265/13 by Monica Luisa Macovei to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Burnings of Yemeni girls	
Versiunea în limba română	401
English version	403
E-012271/13 by Monica Luisa Macovei to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — Burnings of Yemeni girls	
Versiunea în limba română	401
English version	403
E-012267/13 by Monica Luisa Macovei to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Polio virus — emergency immunisation activities	
Versiunea în limba română	405
English version	406

E-012268/13 by Monica Luisa Macovei to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Funding the eradication of polio	
Versiunea în limba română	407
English version	408
E-012269/13 by Monica Luisa Macovei to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Port and trade security in light of AIS vulnerabilities	
Versiunea în limba română	409
English version	411
E-012272/13 by Rareș-Lucian Niculescu to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Bulgaria's extension of ban on sale of land to foreigners	
Versiunea în limba română	412
English version	413
E-012273/13 by Rareș-Lucian Niculescu to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Implementation of PEAD in Romania	
Versiunea în limba română	414
English version	415
E-012274/13 by Rareș-Lucian Niculescu to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Recurring threat of polio virus in Europe	
Versiunea în limba română	416
English version	417
E-012275/13 by Rareș-Lucian Niculescu to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Drafting national rural development programmes in Member States	
Versiunea în limba română	418
English version	419
E-012276/13 by Rareș-Lucian Niculescu to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Definition of 'artificial conditions' laid down by Regulation (EU) No 65/2011	
Versiunea în limba română	420
English version	421
E-012277/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Marine litter	
Version française	422
English version	424
E-012357/13 by Daciana Octavia Sârbu to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Suggested modifications to legislation on marine litter	
Versiunea în limba română	423
English version	424
E-012278/13 by Marc Tarabella to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Taps and standardisation	
Version française	426
English version	427
E-012280/13 by Marc Tarabella and Jean Louis Cottigny to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Simplified VAT declaration	
Version française	428
English version	429
E-012281/13 by Marc Tarabella and Jean Louis Cottigny to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Cinema and cultural exception	
Version française	430
English version	431
P-012282/13 by Heinz K. Becker to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Decision on the topic for the 2014 European Year	
Deutsche Fassung	432
English version	433

E-012283/13 by Giancarlo Scottà to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Procedures for dealing with liquids and prohibited items at airports	
Versione italiana	434
English version	435
E-012284/13 by Mariya Gabriel to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Tobacco growing under the new CAP	
българска версия	436
English version	437
E-012285/13 by Sir Graham Watson to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Dual taxation of income	
English version	438
E-012286/13 by Sir Graham Watson to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Pollution from the Compañía Española De Petróleos (CEPSA) oil refinery	
English version	439
E-012287/13 by Sir Graham Watson to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Pollution on Gibraltar's Western Beach	
English version	440
E-012288/13 by Sir Graham Watson to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Reports of pollution in the Bay of Gibraltar	
English version	440
E-012289/13 by Daciana Octavia Sârbu to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> E-Health, health inequalities and the digital divide	
Versiunea în limba română	441
English version	442
E-012292/13 by Dominique Riquet to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Review of experience gained regarding the screening of Liquids, Aerosols and Gels (LAGs)	
Version française	443
English version	444
E-012300/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Cost of rescuing euro area countries with Memorandum status	
Ελληνική έκδοση	445
English version	446
E-012301/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> CPR survival rate	
Ελληνική έκδοση	447
English version	448
E-012302/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Action to promote language learning among European citizens	
Ελληνική έκδοση	449
English version	450
E-012303/13 by Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Entrepreneurship in European education	
Ελληνική έκδοση	451
English version	453
E-012304/13 by Matteo Salvini to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Request for measures to support 10 000 Alcatel Lucent workers facing redundancy	
Versione italiana	454
English version	456
E-012306/13 by Olga Sehnalová to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Changes affecting the transport of passengers in wheelchairs made by RegioJet a.s.	
České znění	457
English version	459

P-012309/13 by Claudette Abela Baldacchino to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Solidarity regarding migration issues	
Verżjoni Maltija	461
English version	462
E-012312/13 by Konstantinos Poupakis to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Percentage of labour force covered by collective agreements	
Ελληνική έκδοση	463
English version	464
P-012313/13 by Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Emergency in the Salento area caused by the appearance of the bacterium <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i>	
Versione italiana	465
English version	466
E-012315/13 by Mark Demesmaeker to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> The Commission's language policy	
Nederlandse versie	467
English version	468
E-012318/13 by Marek Henryk Migalski to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> EU-Russia cooperation at Commission level	
Wersja polska	469
English version	470
E-012319/13 by Claudette Abela Baldacchino to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Discriminatory blood donation policies	
Verżjoni Maltija	471
English version	472
E-012321/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Efficacy of bailout and bail-in plans	
Ελληνική έκδοση	473
English version	474
E-012323/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Promoting gender issues in times of economic crisis	
Ελληνική έκδοση	475
English version	477
E-012326/13 by Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Regulated professions	
Versiunea în limba română	478
English version	479
E-012327/13 by Claudette Abela Baldacchino to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> IT illiteracy among the elderly	
Verżjoni Maltija	480
English version	481
E-012329/13 by Claudette Abela Baldacchino to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Sport and physical activity	
Verżjoni Maltija	482
English version	483
E-012330/13 by Claudette Abela Baldacchino to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Traffic accidents	
Verżjoni Maltija	484
English version	485
E-012332/13 by Daciana Octavia Sârbu to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Energy intake reference values for children	
Versiunea în limba română	486
English version	487

E-012334/13 by Chris Davies to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Eco-labelling of fish products	
English version	488
E-012336/13 by Oreste Rossi to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Distortion of competition due to disposal of state assets	
Versione italiana	489
English version	490
E-012337/13 by Oreste Rossi to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Developing innovative urban technologies	
Versione italiana	491
English version	492
E-012339/13 by Franz Obermayr to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Wild boar and swine fever in the EU	
Deutsche Fassung	493
English version	494
E-012340/13 by Franz Obermayr to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> New Medical Devices Regulation — approval system — patient safety	
Deutsche Fassung	495
English version	496
E-012341/13 by Patricia van der Kammen to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Commission's plans to regulate water quantities used for toilet flushing	
Nederlandse versie	497
English version	498
P-012343/13 by Erminia Mazzoni to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Setting up of a territorial cohesion agency in Italy	
Versione italiana	499
English version	500
E-012344/13 by Jim Higgins to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Irish national car test (NCT) legislation	
English version	501
P-012345/13 by Keith Taylor to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> State aid for proposed Hinkley Point C nuclear power plant	
English version	502
P-012346/13 by Jean Lambert to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> State aid for proposed Hinkley Point C nuclear power plant	
English version	502
E-012348/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Open Knowledge Foundation	
Ελληνική έκδοση	503
English version	504
E-012349/13 by Cristiana Muscardini to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Rat population in Italy	
Versione italiana	505
English version	506
E-012351/13 by Daniel Hannan to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Cyprus Memorandum of Understanding	
English version	507
E-012353/13 by Marc Tarabella and Jean Louis Cottigny to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Decapitation video on Facebook	
Version française	508
English version	509

E-012354/13 by Marc Tarabella and Jean Louis Cottigny to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Food labelled 'made on the premises'	
Version française	510
English version	512
E-012355/13 by Marc Tarabella and Jean Louis Cottigny to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Rabbit battery farms	
Version française	514
English version	515
E-012356/13 by Daciana Octavia Sărbu to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> New school fruit scheme	
Versiunea în limba română	516
English version	517
E-012358/13 by Elisabeth Jeggle and Mathieu Grosch to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Separate social legislation for bus drivers and uniform fines for infringements of EU social legislation	
Deutsche Fassung	518
English version	520
E-012359/13 by Gay Mitchell to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Temporary workers	
English version	522
E-012360/13 by Renate Sommer to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Effects of rapeseed oil on health	
Deutsche Fassung	523
English version	524
E-012361/13 by Renate Sommer to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Assessment of food labelling indications concerning probiotics	
Deutsche Fassung	525
English version	526
E-012362/13 by Linda McAvan to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Sambuca and the spirit drinks regulation	
English version	527
E-012364/13 by Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Flooding in Ginosa	
Versione italiana	528
English version	529
E-012365/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Threatened monuments and cultural landmarks in Europe	
Ελληνική έκδοση	530
English version	531
E-012366/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> LNG and power cable projects of common interest	
Ελληνική έκδοση	532
English version	533
E-012367/13 by Andrea Zanoni to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Operation of the Porto Viro regasification plant (Rovigo, Italy) and the related fall in catch levels and deaths of dolphins and turtles in the surrounding Adriatic waters	
Versione italiana	534
English version	535
E-012368/13 by Andrea Zanoni to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Hydrocarbon exploration and extraction in Emilia-Romagna, an area prone to subsidence and earthquakes	
Versione italiana	536
English version	538

E-012369/13 by Andrea Zanoni to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Disputed installations and delays in completion of nature trail ‘Sui Sentieri degli Ezzelini’ in the western part of the province of Treviso, financed with EU funding	
Versione italiana	539
English version	540
P-012372/13 by Rachida Dati to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Cinema communication — no to uncontrolled deregulation	
Version française	541
English version	542
E-012373/13 by Jim Higgins to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> CAP payment	
English version	543
E-012380/13 by Edward McMillan-Scott to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Application of the industrial emissions directive and its impact on competitiveness	
English version	544
E-012382/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Alzheimer’s disease breakthrough	
English version	545
E-012383/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Milk quota compensation	
English version	546
E-012384/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Malaria vaccine	
English version	547
E-012385/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> EU military integration	
English version	548
E-012386/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Implementation of EU Directive 2012/29/EU	
English version	549
E-012387/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Support for Thalidomide victims	
English version	550
E-012388/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Research into the trans-generational impact of terrorism	
English version	551
E-012389/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> The political situation in Libya	
English version	552
E-012390/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Impact of EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement on agriculture	
English version	553
E-012391/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Uptake of advanced single farm payments	
English version	554
E-012392/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Racism in sport	
English version	555

E-012394/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Female drivers in Saudi Arabia	
English version	556
E-012395/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Regulation (EC) No 261/2004	
English version	557
E-012396/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Banning mobile phone roaming charges	
English version	558
P-012397/13 by Josef Weidenholzer to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Storage of passenger data in Hungary	
Deutsche Fassung	559
English version	560
E-012399/13 by Catherine Grèze to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> European otter under threat in Lot-et-Garonne	
Version française	561
English version	562
E-012400/13 by Rachida Dati to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> EU-China investment agreement: protection of geographical indications	
Version française	563
English version	564
E-012405/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Suicide rates	
Ελληνική έκδοση	565
English version	566
E-012406/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Women's economic independence	
Ελληνική έκδοση	567
English version	568
E-012408/13 by Mara Bizzotto to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Unemployment in Italy: failure of the Europe 2020 strategy and concern over relocations	
Versione italiana	569
English version	571
E-012409/13 by Mara Bizzotto to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Hepatitis E: increase in contagion from animals in the UK	
Versione italiana	573
English version	574
E-012410/13 by Mara Bizzotto to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Bad diets and the associated health risks for people in Europe	
Versione italiana	575
English version	577
P-012412/13 by Salvatore Caronna to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Suspected relocation of Electrolux	
Versione italiana	578
English version	579
E-012413/13 by Catherine Bearder, Chris Davies and Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy to the Commission <i>Subject:</i> Squalene	
Nederlandse versie	580
English version	581

E-012419/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Suspicious funding in Germany	
Ελληνική έκδοση	582
English version	583
E-012424/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> The Republic of Cyprus has become a colony of its 'protector' motherland Turkey	
Ελληνική έκδοση	584
English version	585
E-012426/13 by Andrea Zanoni to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Concealment of massive amounts of hazardous and harmful toxic waste in Italy and non-disclosure of important environmental information by the Italian authorities	
Versione italiana	586
English version	587
E-012427/13 by Tunne Kelam to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — Human Rights Situation in Kazakhstan	
Eestikeelne versioon	588
English version	589
E-012428/13 by Nicole Sinclair to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Number of European arrest warrants implemented	
English version	590
E-012429/13 by Nicole Sinclair to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Supremacy of EC law	
English version	591
P-012430/13 by Tarja Cronberg to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> VP/HR — Opening of an EU delegation in Iran	
Suomenkielinen versio	592
English version	593
P-012431/13 by Bogusław Liberadzki to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> TIR system	
Wersja polska	594
English version	596
E-012434/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Reform of European Arrest Warrant	
English version	598
E-012435/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Developments in Gibraltar	
English version	599
E-012437/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Cases of lung cancer	
English version	600
E-012438/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Strokes affecting young people	
English version	601
E-012439/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Flash floods in India	
English version	602
E-012441/13 by Diane Dodds to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Motor Neurone Disease	
English version	603

E-012448/13 by Antigoni Papadopoulou to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> General Health Plan	
Ελληνική έκδοση	604
English version	605
P-012449/13 by Bart Staes to the Council	
<i>Subject:</i> EU tobacco agreements and payments to Member States	
Nederlandse versie	606
English version	607
E-012457/13 by Crescenzo Rivellini to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Transportation and treatment of waste from Naples in the Netherlands	
Versione italiana	608
English version	609
E-012461/13 by Christine De Veyrac to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Use of new technologies in Europe's fight against unemployment	
Version française	610
English version	611
E-012463/13 by Christine De Veyrac to the Commission	
<i>Subject:</i> Rise in use of the mephedrone-based drug 'Slam'	
Version française	612
English version	613

(Hrvatska verzija)

Pitanje za pisani odgovor P-010755/13
upućeno Komisiji
Tonino Picula (S&D)
(20. rujna 2013.)

Predmet: Potpora regionalnim zračnim lukama

U srpnju ove godine Europska komisija objavila je nacrt Smjernica za državne potpore zračnim lukama i avio prijevoznicima koje bi, nakon što se okončaju konzultacije sa zemljama članicama Europske unije 2. listopada 2013., trebale stupiti na snagu početkom sljedeće godine.

Predložene smjernice znatno izmjenjuju dosadašnju dinamiku ulaganja u avioinfrastrukturu i smjernice usvojene 2005. godine. Pritom se šalju signali da investicije u zračnu infrastrukturu u ovom trenutku nisu najpoželjnije (takva se interpretacija primjerice može čuti od Glavne uprave za regionalni i urbani razvoj Europske komisije). To nikako ne doprinosi ujedinjenosti Europe u različitosti (United in diversity), kako to često i Komisija naglašava, a za koju je upravo kvalitetna prometna povezanost jedan od osnovnih preduvjeta.

Među mnoštvom izmjena predloženim u području zračnog prometa nekolicina je od iznimne važnosti za Republiku Hrvatsku. Prije svega, kategorizacija zračnih luka isključivo prema broju putnika koji njima prolaze. Takva klasifikacija zanemaruje specifičnosti, kako hrvatskih tako i ostalih europskih regija, vezano uz npr. njihove postojeće intermodalne prometne veze ili zemljopisnu izoliranost. U hrvatskom slučaju to se primarno odnosi na zračne luke na otocima ili na zračnu luku Dubrovnik koja povezuje jedini ekstrateritorijalni kopneni dio cijele Europske unije, gdje su okolnosti bitno drugačije od onih u središnjem dijelu kontinenta. Pored toga, nužno je uzimati u obzir ukupnu razvojnu i socijalnu korist koju zračne luke donose cijeloj regiji.

Također, važno je naglasiti da Republika Hrvatska kao najnovija članica Europske unije, za razliku od ostalih zemalja članica, nije imala mogućnost korištenja europskih fondova u svrhu ulaganja u avioinfrastrukturu. Budući da se na sve zemlje članice EU-a primjenjuje načelo tzv. *equal treatmenta*, odnosno jednakog tretmana, predviđa li Europska komisija za Hrvatsku mjere kojima bi se olakšala takva ulaganja, s obzirom na to da Hrvatska u ovom trenutku priprema operativne programe i jedan dio budućih investicija planira u ovom sektoru?

Odgovor g. Almunije u ime Komisije
(15. listopada 2013.)

Komisija je u potpunosti svjesna važnosti regionalnih zračnih luka u omogućivanju dostupnosti regija i regionalnog razvoja.

Potrebno je, međutim, uzeti u obzir moguće narušavanje tržišnog natjecanja zbog državnih potpora te nužnost sprečavanja rasipanja javnih sredstava.

U tom je kontekstu nacrtom novog okvira državnih potpora za zračne luke i zračne prijevoznike predviđeno da se potpore za ulaganje u zračne luke s obzirom na njihov promet proglašavaju sukladnima uz određene uvjete. Određene operativne potpore za regionalne zračne luke moći će se dodjeljivati tijekom prijelaznog razdoblja od 10 godina.

Države članice zadržavaju i mogućnost nametanja obveza pružanja javne usluge određenim zračnim lukama posebno u izoliranim regijama te dodjeljivanja naknade za pružanje javne usluge, u skladu s odredbama o sukladnosti potpora za javne usluge.

Države članice moći će, dakle, osigurati financiranje određenih ulaganja u zračne luke kao odgovor na stvarne potrebe građana.

Komisija još nije konačno utvrdila svoje stajalište i pomno će proučiti primjedbe koje bude zaprimila tijekom javnog savjetovanja.

(English version)

**Question for written answer P-010755/13
to the Commission
Tonino Picula (S&D)
(20 September 2013)**

Subject: Support for regional airports

In July 2013, the Commission published proposals for directives on state support for airports and airlines. Following the conclusion of consultations with Member States on 2 October 2013, those directives should enter into force in 2014.

The proposed directives significantly alter the traditional dynamic for investment in air infrastructure and modify the directive adopted in 2005. They also send out signals that investments in air infrastructure are not currently viewed as desirable (such attitudes may be encountered in the Commission's Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy). This in no way serves the objective of European unity in diversity, as the Commission often claims. High-quality transport links are one of the key preconditions for such unity to exist.

Among the numerous changes proposed in the area of air transport, several will have a particular impact on Croatia. Above all, there is the classification of airports solely on the basis of how many passengers pass through them. Such a classification system ignores the specificities of regions both in Croatia and elsewhere in Europe (for example, their existing intermodal traffic links or geographic isolation). In the case of Croatia, the issue mainly concerns airports on islands or the airport serving Dubrovnik, which provides a transport link for the only exclave in the EU, where conditions differ greatly from those in the central part of the continent. Additionally, it is vital to take into consideration all of the developmental and social benefits that airports bring to the entire region.

Furthermore, it is important to stress that Croatia — as the newest EU Member State — has not been able to benefit from EU funds for air infrastructure investment, unlike the other Member States. Given that the principle of equal treatment is supposed to be applied with regard to all Member States, does the Commission foresee any measures to facilitate such investment for Croatia, given that Croatia is currently preparing operational programmes and that a portion of future investments are planned in this sector?

(Version française)

**Réponse donnée par M Almunia au nom de la Commission
(15 octobre 2013)**

La Commission est pleinement consciente de l'importance des aéroports régionaux pour assurer l'accessibilité et le développement régional.

Il convient toutefois de prendre également en considération les distorsions de la concurrence qui peuvent résulter des aides d'État et la nécessité d'éviter un gaspillage des ressources publiques.

Dans ce contexte, le projet de nouvel encadrement des aides d'État en faveur des aéroports et des compagnies aériennes prévoit notamment de déclarer compatibles sous certaines conditions, les aides à l'investissement en faveur des aéroports en fonction de leur trafic. Certaines aides au fonctionnement en faveur des aéroports régionaux pourront être octroyées pendant une période transitoire de 10 années.

Les États membres conservent aussi la possibilité d'imposer des obligations de service public à certains aéroports notamment dans les régions isolées et d'octroyer des compensations de service public, conformément aux dispositions régissant la compatibilité des aides pour les services publics.

Les États membres auront donc la possibilité d'assurer le financement de certains investissements dans les aéroports qui répondent à un besoin réel des citoyens.

La Commission n'a pas encore finalisée sa position et analysera avec attention les commentaires fournis lors de la consultation publique.

(Version française)

Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-011726/13
à la Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D)
(15 octobre 2013)

Objet: Projet Aprosys

Le projet Aprosys a reçu 18 millions d'euros de l'UE, ce qui en fait une initiative européenne phare dans le domaine de la recherche sur la sécurité routière. L'équipe a rassemblé la recherche et l'expertise scientifique et technologique de toute l'Europe et a englobé un large éventail de questions liées à la sûreté, dont la biomécanique humaine, la résistance des véhicules et des infrastructures aux collisions, la détection et le contrôle ainsi que les systèmes de protection des usagers de la route et des passagers.

1. Quelles sont les avancées du projet?
2. Quels sont les objectifs déjà réalisés?

Réponse donnée par M^{me} Geoghegan-Quinn au nom de la Commission
(3 décembre 2013)

1. Aprosys était un projet intégré ⁽¹⁾ (2004-2009) du 6^e PC ⁽²⁾. Il a bénéficié d'un financement de 18 millions d'euros de l'Union européenne, sur un budget total de 30 millions d'euros. Les 48 partenaires du projet étaient des constructeurs automobiles, des fournisseurs, des centres de recherche et des universités.

2. Il a obtenu des résultats significatifs: nouveaux modèles informatiques permettant de simuler le comportement des victimes d'accidents de la route, harmonisation des mannequins d'essais de collision (*crash-test*) au niveau mondial, méthode d'évaluation des systèmes de sécurité avancés, méthodes d'essai et nouveaux systèmes de protection des usagers de la route vulnérables, nouvel essai de collision frontale et essais d'impact latéral avancés. Certains produits sont aujourd'hui disponibles sur le marché, tels qu'un casque amélioré et un dispositif de protection de la partie supérieure du corps destinés aux motocyclistes.

Les connaissances acquises dans les essais d'impact latéral ont alimenté de nouvelles initiatives en matière de sécurité des conducteurs et des passagers prises par Euro NCAP ⁽³⁾ (organisme européen chargé des essais de collision), des groupes de travail du Comité européen pour l'amélioration de la sécurité des véhicules et d'autres organismes internationaux.

Les travaux se poursuivent après la fin du projet en ce qui concerne la méthode d'évaluation, les essais d'impacts frontal et latéral, les essais spécifiques pour les piétons, les cyclistes et les motocyclistes et l'intégration d'essais virtuels dans la réglementation.

Plusieurs projets du 7^e PC ⁽⁴⁾ se fondent également sur les résultats d'Aprosys, comme Inviter ⁽⁵⁾, EuroFOT ⁽⁶⁾, Assess ⁽⁷⁾ et Saferider ⁽⁸⁾.

Aprosys a apporté une contribution considérable à la sécurité routière et à l'objectif d'une sécurité totale sur les routes pour 2050, fixé dans le livre blanc sur les transports, en faisant progresser la sécurité des citoyens européens de manière significative.

⁽¹⁾ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp6/instr_ip.htm

⁽²⁾ Sixième programme-cadre pour des activités de recherche, de développement technologique et de démonstration (6^e PC, 2002-2006).

⁽³⁾ <http://www.euroncap.com/home.aspx>

⁽⁴⁾ Septième programme-cadre pour des activités de recherche, de développement technologique et de démonstration (7^e PC, 2007-2013).

⁽⁵⁾ <http://www.inviter.com>

⁽⁶⁾ <http://www.eurofot-ip.eu>

⁽⁷⁾ <http://www.assess-project.eu>

⁽⁸⁾ <http://www.saferider-eu.org>

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-011726/13
to the Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D)
(15 October 2013)**

Subject: APROSYS Project

The APROSYS (Advanced Protection Systems) project has received EUR 18 million from the EU, which is making it a flagship European initiative in the field of road safety research. The team has brought together research and scientific and technological expertise from across Europe and covered a wide range of issues linked to safety, including human biomechanics, the resistance of vehicles and infrastructures to collisions, detection and control, as well as protection systems for road users and passengers.

1. What progress has the project made?
2. What objectives have already been achieved?

**Answer given by Ms Geoghegan-Quinn on behalf of the Commission
(3 December 2013)**

1. APROSYS was an FP6 ⁽¹⁾ Integrated Project (2004-2009) ⁽²⁾. The EU funding amounted to EUR 18 million, out of a total budgeted cost of EUR 30 million. The 48 partners included car manufacturers, suppliers, research centres and universities.

2. Significant results were new computer models simulating people's behaviour in crashes, a worldwide harmonised crash test dummy, an assessment method for advanced safety, testing methods and new protection systems for Vulnerable Road Users (VRUs), a new front crash test and advanced side impact tests. Some products are now available on the market e.g. an improved helmet and upper body protector for motorcyclists.

Knowledge gained in the side impact tests is being included in new, driver/passenger safety initiatives by Euro NCAP ⁽³⁾, (the European crash test authority), EEVC (European Enhanced Vehicle Safety Committee) working groups and other international bodies.

Further work continues after the project on the assessment method, front and side impact tests, specific tests for pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists and implementing virtual testing in regulations.

Several FP7 ⁽⁴⁾ projects are also building on results, such as IMVITER ⁽⁵⁾, EuroFOT ⁽⁶⁾, ASSESS ⁽⁷⁾ and SAFERIDER ⁽⁸⁾.

APROSYS has made a major contribution to road safety and to the 'zero-vision' 2050 objective on the Transport White Paper, delivering a significant step forward for the safety of the European citizen.

⁽¹⁾ Sixth Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities (FP6, 2002-2006).

⁽²⁾ http://cordis.europa.eu/fp6/instr_ip.htm

⁽³⁾ <http://www.euroncap.com/home.aspx>

⁽⁴⁾ Seventh Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities (FP7, 2007-2013).

⁽⁵⁾ <http://www.imviter.com>

⁽⁶⁾ <http://www.eurofot-ip.eu>

⁽⁷⁾ <http://www.assess-project.eu>

⁽⁸⁾ <http://www.saferider-eu.org>

(Version française)

**Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-011727/13
à la Commission**

Marc Tarabella (S&D) et Jean Louis Cottigny (S&D)

(15 octobre 2013)

Objet: Gaz de schiste

Le Parlement européen a proposé mercredi que les activités d'exploration et d'extraction d'hydrocarbures non-conventionnels par fracturation hydraulique fassent obligatoirement l'objet d'une étude d'impact environnemental, en amendant une législation existante.

1. La Commission nous rejoint-elle sur cette proposition?
2. La Commission partage-t-elle notre point de vue sur la proposition d'empêcher les conflits d'intérêt, d'informer le public et de le consulter sur le déroulement des projets?

Réponse donnée par M. Potočník au nom de la Commission

(10 décembre 2013)

La Commission examine actuellement les propositions votées par le Parlement afin d'étudier cette question avec les colégislateurs dans le cadre du processus législatif en cours. Au stade actuel, la Commission reste neutre sur cette question et se veut à l'écoute. Étant donné que la question porte sur l'application d'un acte législatif existant (Annexe I de la directive EIE) aux projets relatifs au gaz de schiste (qui relèvent actuellement soit de l'annexe I soit de l'annexe II de la directive EIE), la position adoptée par la Commission dans ce contexte est sans préjudice de toute décision ultérieure de la Commission relative à l'initiative visant à instaurer un nouveau cadre spécialement conçu pour une extraction sûre et sécurisée des hydrocarbures, qui figure dans le programme de travail 2014 de la Commission.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-011727/13
to the Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D) and Jean Louis Cottigny (S&D)
(15 October 2013)**

Subject: Shale gas

On Wednesday, Parliament proposed that activities involving the exploration and extraction of non-conventional hydrocarbons by hydraulic fracturing should be subject to an environmental impact assessment, amending existing legislation.

1. Does the Commission support us on this proposal?
2. Does the Commission share our point of view on the proposal to prevent conflicts of interest, to inform the public and to consult with them on the development of projects?

**Answer given by Mr Potočník on behalf of the Commission
(10 December 2013)**

The Commission is currently examining the proposals voted by Parliament in order to discuss this matter with the legislators in the framework of the ongoing legislative process. At this moment, the Commission remains neutral on this issue and in listening mode. Since the issue is the scope of application of an existing piece of legislation (Annex I of the EIA Directive) to shale gas projects (which are currently covered by either Annex I or Annex II of the EIA Directive), the Commission's position in this context is without prejudice to any future Commission decision on the initiative aimed at establishing a new framework specifically designed for the safe and secure hydrocarbon extraction, which is included in the Commission Work Programme of 2014.

(Versiunea în limba română)

Întrebarea cu solicitare de răspuns scris E-012000/13
adresată Comisiei
Elena Băsescu (PPE)
(21 octombrie 2013)

Subiect: Prezentarea de către Comisia Europeană a unei liste de 250 de proiecte de infrastructuri eligibile pentru o finanțare în valoare de 5,85 miliarde EUR

Comisia Europeană a prezentat în 14 octombrie o listă de 250 de proiecte de infrastructuri eligibile pentru o finanțare în valoare de 5,85 miliarde Euro. Aceste proiecte de interes comun pot beneficia de sprijin financiar prin intermediul Mecanismului Conectarea Europei. Însă suma totală alocată (5,85 miliarde Euro) nu poate acoperi nevoile de finanțare a tuturor proiectelor incluse pe lista publicată de către Comisie.

În acest context, poate oferi Comisia informații cu privire la criteriile în baza cărora vor fi selectate proiectele ce vor fi efectiv finanțate din această sumă? Cum intenționează Comisia să soluționeze situația ipotetică în care valoarea proiectelor depuse în vederea finanțării depășește anvelopa financiară de 5,85 miliarde Euro?

Răspuns dat de dl Oettinger în numele Comisiei
(6 ianuarie 2014)

Regulamentul privind liniile directe pentru infrastructurile energetice transeuropene ⁽¹⁾ stabilește o procedură de identificare, o dată la doi ani, a proiectelor de infrastructură energetică cu valoare adăugată ridicată la nivel european. O primă listă de 248 de proiecte de interes comun a fost publicată în octombrie 2013. Cu toate acestea, doar o mică parte dintre aceste proiecte (în special cele care se confruntă cu dificultăți în ceea ce privește viabilitatea lor comercială) vor fi eligibile pentru sprijin financiar sub formă de granturi pentru lucrări în cadrul mecanismului „Conectarea Europei” (MCE). Cele mai multe dintre acestea vor fi eligibile pentru sprijin financiar sub formă de granturi destinate exclusiv studiilor. Rata de cofinanțare pentru granturi este limitată la maximum 50 % din suma eligibilă. Anumite proiecte vor fi eligibile, de asemenea, pentru finanțare sub formă de instrumente financiare, suma maximă care urmează să fie utilizată pentru instrumentele financiare fiind limitată la 10 % din bugetul MCE. Anumite proiecte nu sunt eligibile pentru niciun ajutor financiar.

Liniile directe stabilesc, de asemenea, măsuri nefinanciare pentru facilitarea investițiilor. Proiectele de interes comun beneficiază de facilități în ceea ce privește acordarea autorizațiilor și de un proces de reglementare ajustat în funcție de riscuri. Studiul de impact ⁽²⁾ realizat înainte de redactarea liniilor directe a identificat aceste aspecte ca fiind cele mai serioase obstacole în calea investițiilor.

În mai 2014 va fi lansată prima cerere de propuneri în cadrul MCE — Energie. Criteriile de selecție și de atribuire pe care trebuie să le îndeplinească proiectele de interes comun eligibile pentru a primi finanțare vor fi identificate în programul de lucru care urmează să fie adoptat la începutul lunii aprilie 2014. Acestea vor lua în considerare, printre altele, analiza cost-beneficiu a proiectului, rezultatul deciziei de alocare transfrontalieră a costurilor și planul de afaceri.

⁽¹⁾ Regulamentul (UE) nr. 347/2013 al Parlamentului European și al Consiliului din 17 aprilie 2013 privind liniile directe pentru infrastructurile energetice transeuropene, de abrogare a Deciziei nr. 1364/2006/CE și de modificare a Regulamentelor (CE) nr. 713/2009, (CE) nr. 714/2009 și (CE) nr. 715/2009 (JO L 115/39, 25.4.2013).

⁽²⁾ Documentul de lucru al serviciilor Comisiei COM(2011) 658.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012000/13
to the Commission
Elena Băsescu (PPE)
(21 October 2013)**

Subject: The Commission submits a list of 250 infrastructure projects eligible for funding to the value of EUR 5.85 billion

On 14 October, the Commission submitted a list of 250 infrastructure projects which were eligible for funding to the value of EUR 5.85 billion. The projects of common interest are eligible for financial support through the Connecting Europe Facility. However, the total amount allocated (EUR 5.85 billion) cannot cover the funding needs of all the projects included on the list published by the Commission.

In light of this, can the Commission provide information regarding the criteria on which the projects that will actually be funded from this amount will be selected? How does the Commission intend to address the hypothetical situation in which the value of projects submitted for funding exceeds the EUR 5.85 billion available?

**Answer given by Mr Oettinger on behalf of the Commission
(6 January 2014)**

The regulation on Guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure ⁽¹⁾ establishes a bi-annual procedure to identify energy infrastructure projects of high European added value. A first list of 248 Projects of Common Interest was published in October 2013. However only a minority of these projects (especially the ones facing difficulties in their commercial viability) will be eligible for financial support in the form of grants for works under the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF). Most of them will be eligible for financial support in the form of grants for studies only. The co-financing rate for grants is limited to a maximum of 50% of the eligible amount. Some projects will also be eligible for access to financial instruments, the maximum amount to be used for financial instruments being limited to 10% of the CEF budget. Some projects are not eligible for any financial support at all.

The Guidelines also establish non-financial measures to facilitate investments. PCIs benefit from improved permit granting and risk-adjusted regulatory treatment. The impact assessment ⁽²⁾ conducted prior to the Guidelines identifies these obstacles as the most important ones to investments.

In May 2014, the first call for proposals under CEF energy will be launched. The selection and award criteria that eligible PCIs will have to meet in order to receive funding will be identified in the Work Programme to be adopted in early April 2014. They will take into account, among others, the project specific cost-benefit analysis, the outcome of the cross-border cost allocation decision and the business plan.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2013 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure and repealing Decision No 1364/2006/EC and amending Regulations (EC) No 713/2009, (EC) No 714/2009 and (EC) No 715/2009 (OJ L 115/39, 25.4.2013).

⁽²⁾ Commission staff working paper COM(2011) 658.

(Versión española)

**Pregunta con solicitud de respuesta escrita E-012002/13
a la Comisión**

Ramon Tremosa i Balcells (ALDE)

(21 de octubre de 2013)

Asunto: Orientaciones RTE-T, análisis coste-beneficios, volumen de pasajeros y sostenibilidad económica de algunos trayectos del AVE

Uno de cada cuatro trayectos del AVE solo tiene un pasajero al día. En 2012 se contabilizaron 10 rutas entre las 22 estaciones de la red con menos de 10 pasajeros en los doce meses y otras 88 con menos de cinco viajeros diarios. Únicamente 16 relaciones superaron los 100 000 pasajeros en el año, y tan solo dos rebasaron el millón ⁽¹⁾. Entre Puente Genil y Córdoba viajaron en todo el año 295 personas; entre Guadalajara y Calatayud, 127; entre Antequera y Puertollano, 108.

Entre las estaciones en las que existieron relaciones con menos de diez pasajeros al día está la de Tardienta, en Huesca; de los diez trayectos de ida o vuelta con parada en este apeadero, solo dos logran un pasajero por día. De los ocho restantes, dos suman poco más de 30 pasajeros a lo largo del año y seis no llegan ni siquiera a diez viajeros en los 12 meses. Pero este pequeño pueblo aragonés no es un caso único. Poblaciones con mucho más empaque, como Guadalajara (2 trayectos), Huesca (1), Calatayud (2), Antequera (2), Puertollano (2), Cuenca (1), Utiel-Requena (2) o Puente Genil (2), explotan alguna relación con menos de 10 pasajeros al año. Si a estas estaciones les sumamos las de ciudades como Ciudad Real o Lleida, habremos identificado las poblaciones desde las que se explota la práctica totalidad de los 48 trayectos del AVE a los que calificamos de «unipersonales», porque tuvieron uno o menos de un pasajero por día. Por ejemplo, entre Puente Genil y Córdoba viajaron en todo el año 295 personas; entre Guadalajara y Calatayud, 127; entre Antequera y Puertollano, 108.

El parque de RENFE, en el que se han invertido 5 000 millones de euros, cuenta con 195 trenes de alta velocidad. Solo 86 han sido diseñados para los trayectos directos o semidirectos entre grandes capitales del país. Las restantes 109 unidades fueron adquiridas para los servicios Alvia y Avant.

¿Tiene la Comisión conocimiento de estos datos sobre el volumen de pasajeros y el tráfico del AVE? ¿Nos puede facilitar la Comisión los datos que tiene?

¿Considera la Comisión que el dispendio dedicado a la alta velocidad en España respeta las nuevas normas RTE-T y el principio de coste-beneficio?

¿Ha recibido la Comisión un estudio sobre los retornos económicos de esta infraestructura y, en particular, se han implicado fondos de financiación europeos?

Respuesta del Sr. Kallas en nombre de la Comisión

(9 de diciembre de 2013)

1. La Comisión no tiene ningún dato específico. Las autoridades españolas no están obligadas a enviar esa información a la Comisión.

2. Por lo que se refiere a las inversiones en la infraestructura de transportes española, incluida, pero no exclusivamente, la red de alta velocidad, la Comisión, en el marco del semestre europeo de 2013, insistió en lo siguiente: «La infraestructura de transporte es abundante, pero hay margen para que la selección de las inversiones sea más estricta y se dé prioridad al mantenimiento eficiente de las redes existentes. La creación de un observatorio independiente, tal como está previsto, sería de utilidad a este respecto» ⁽²⁾. Al evaluar la red española de alta velocidad, sin embargo, debe considerarse el valor añadido europeo resultante de la integración de la Península Ibérica en la red RTE-T a través de líneas interoperables aptas para el tráfico mixto.

En el análisis costes-beneficios del tren de alta velocidad en España se tienen en cuenta al menos entre veinte y veinticinco años de actividad. Los datos sobre tráfico del año citado son realmente insatisfactorios; no obstante, debe realizarse un análisis a largo plazo. Además, en el análisis costes-beneficios debe considerarse no solo la rentabilidad financiera, sino también la rentabilidad económica para todo el país y para la UE.

⁽¹⁾ http://www.eldiario.es/economia/Renfe-AVE-Tardienta-Puente_Genil_0_121438139.html

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/pdf/nd/csr2013_spain_es.pdf

3. No. La Comisión solo encarga la realización de estudios de evaluación *ex post* de la rentabilidad económica y financiera cuando los proyectos están finalizados. Entre el final de las obras y la evaluación *ex post* pueden llegar a transcurrir diez años para poder analizar esa rentabilidad a largo plazo.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012002/13
to the Commission**

Ramon Tremosa i Balcells (ALDE)

(21 October 2013)

Subject: TEN-T guidelines, cost-benefit analysis, passenger volumes and economic sustainability of Spanish high-speed rail (AVE) routes

One in every four AVE routes has only one passenger a day. In 2012, 10 routes between the network's 22 stations were recorded as having fewer than 10 passengers over the year and another 88 routes had fewer than five passengers a day. Only 16 routes had more than 100 000 passengers in the year, and only two had more than a million ⁽¹⁾. Two hundred and ninety-five people travelled between Puente Genil and Córdoba in the whole year, 127 between Guadalajara and Calatayud and 108 between Antequera and Puertollano.

Stations with connections carrying fewer than 10 passengers a day included Tardienta, in Huesca; of the 10 return trips stopping at this passenger stop, only two managed one passenger a day. Of the other eight, two accounted for a little over 30 passengers over the year combined and six did not even manage 10 passengers in the 12 months. However, this little town in Aragon is not a unique case. Much bigger towns, like Guadalajara (2 routes), Huesca (1), Calatayud (2), Antequera (2), Puertollano (2), Cuenca (1), Utiel-Requena (2) and Puente Genil (2), operate connections with fewer than 10 passengers a year. If we add to these the stations in towns like Ciudad Real and Lleida, we will have identified the towns and cities from which practically all of the 48 AVE routes that we term 'one-person' routes — because they had one, or less than one, passenger a day — are operated. For example, in the whole year, 295 people travelled between Puente Genil and Córdoba, 127 between Guadalajara and Calatayud and 108 between Antequera and Puertollano.

Spain's national rail company, RENFE, has invested EUR 5 billion in its fleet, which includes 195 high-speed trains. Only 86 of these are designed for direct or semi-direct routes between the country's major cities. The other 109 units were acquired for the Alvia and Avant services.

Is the Commission aware of this AVE passenger volume and traffic data? Can the Commission provide us with the data it has?

Does the Commission believe that the excessive sums spent on high-speed rail in Spain adhere to the new TEN-T guidelines and the cost-benefit principle?

Has the Commission received a study on the economic returns of this infrastructure and, in particular, have European funds been involved?

Answer given by Mr Kallas on behalf of the Commission

(9 December 2013)

1. The Commission has no specific data. The Spanish authorities are not obliged to send this information to the Commission.

2. With regards to the investments in transport infrastructure in Spain, including — but not exclusively — the high-speed network, the Commission stressed, in the framework of 2013 EU Semester that 'The transport infrastructure is abundant but there is scope to make the selection of investment more stringent and prioritise efficient maintenance of existing networks. Setting up an independent observatory, as planned, would help in this respect.' ⁽²⁾ When assessing the Spanish high-speed network, however, the European added value arising from integration of the Iberian Peninsula in the TEN-T network through interoperable lines suitable for mix traffic, ought to be considered.

The cost benefit analysis of the high speed train in Spain takes into consideration at least 20-25 years of activity. The traffic data of the year mentioned are indeed unsatisfactory; however the analysis has to be made on a long term basis. Furthermore, the cost benefit analysis has to consider not also the financial returns but also the economic returns to the whole country and the EU.

⁽¹⁾ http://www.eldiario.es/economia/Renfe-AVE-Tardienta-Puente_Genil_0_121438139.html

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/pdf/nd/csr2013_spain_en.pdf

3. No. 'Ex post' evaluation studies of the economic and financial returns are commissioned by the Commission once the projects are finished. The lag between the end of the works and the 'ex post' evaluation can take 10 years, in order to analyse the long term financial and economic benefits.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012003/13
to the Commission
Glenis Willmott (S&D)
(21 October 2013)**

Subject: Fructose

Earlier this year, the health claim 'consumption of foods containing fructose leads to a lower blood glucose rise compared to foods containing sucrose or glucose' was authorised. As a diet with high levels of fructose has been linked to obesity, and fructose is metabolised in a way that can cause health problems in the long term, it is important that this health claim does not encourage people to consume unhealthy amounts of fructose.

Will the Commission be monitoring the consumption of fructose across Europe and how this is affected by the newly authorised health claim? Will it consider revoking the authorisation of the health claim if there is evidence that it is leading to unhealthy levels of consumption of fructose? When authorising health claims in the future, will the Commission take into account the long-term health effects of increased consumption of a certain nutrient?

**Question for written answer E-012473/13
to the Commission
James Nicholson (ECR)
(5 November 2013)**

Subject: Acceptance of fructose

The European Food Safety Authority recently decided to allow a health claim for fructose, on the grounds that it has a lower glycaemic index than sucrose or glucose. On the basis of this advice, the EU has ruled that food and drink manufacturers may claim that their sweetened products are healthier if they replace more than 30% of the glucose and sucrose in the product with fructose.

Nevertheless, health experts have warned that this could potentially increase obesity levels across the EU. Is the Commission aware of the objections raised by the health sector? If so, what plans does it have to ensure that people are adequately warned of the dangers of excessive consumption of products containing fructose?

**Joint answer given by Mr Borg on behalf of the Commission
(9 December 2013)**

The authorised claim on fructose may only be made on foods where glucose and /or sucrose have been replaced by fructose in sugar-sweetened foods or drinks; it targets people who are already consumers of sugar sweetened foods or drinks and are concerned about their blood glucose levels.

The claim was authorised on the basis of a favourable assessment carried out by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). During the meeting of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health that gave a favourable opinion to the Commission's draft Regulation authorising the aforementioned claim, on the request of some Member States it was agreed that particular attention will be paid by the Commission to the evolution of fructose intakes following the authorisation of the claim in the report on the application of Regulation (EC) No 1924/2006⁽¹⁾. The Commission may consider whether EFSA should be requested to provide further scientific advice in relation to the use of the claim, taking into account the evolution of scientific knowledge on fructose and the evolution of its consumption in the EU.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 404, 30.12.2006.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012004/13
to the Commission
Chris Davies (ALDE)
(21 October 2013)**

Subject: United Kingdom's implementation of the Birds Directive

Is the Commission satisfied that the UK is meeting the requirements of the Birds Directive with regard to the designation of Special Protection Areas intended to conserve the marine habitats of seabirds, and with regard to the acquisition of data for seabirds at sea as required by Article 10?

The Birds Directive is one of the oldest EU measures intended to protect habitats and the biodiversity of species. If the Commission is not wholly satisfied that the UK is in compliance more than 30 years after the date set, what steps is it taking to ensure that respect is paid to the provisions of the directive?

**Answer given by Mr Potočník on behalf of the Commission
(11 December 2013)**

The Commission is in contact with the UK authorities on the question of the insufficient designation of marine Special Protection Areas (SPAs) under the Birds Directive ⁽¹⁾ and the underlying question of data-needs. The issue has been discussed a number of times with the UK authorities. The Commission has raised concerns that the data collection efforts and designation process need to be speeded up and is considering what further steps to take.

⁽¹⁾ Council Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the conservation of wild birds, codifying Directive 79/409/EEC; OJ L 020, 26.1.2010.

(Wersja polska)

Pytanie wymagające odpowiedzi pisemnej E-012005/13
do Komisji
Jarosław Leszek Wałęsa (PPE)
(21 października 2013 r.)

Przedmiot: Dostępność niebezpiecznych substancji odchudzających na rynku Unii Europejskiej

W ostatnim czasie w mediach pojawiły się niepokojące doniesienia na temat osób, które poniosły śmierć ze względu na spożycie substancji odchudzających. Większość tych substancji jest nielegalna i pochodzi z nieznanymi źródłami. Zdając sobie sprawę z faktu, iż wśród młodych osób modne stało się zrzucanie wagi za wszelką cenę, chciałbym zwrócić uwagę na leki i substancje, które mimo całej gamy skutków ubocznych jednak trafiają do konsumentów. Zaliczamy do nich między innymi:

- kapsułki z larwami tasiemca;
- dinitrophenol;
- sibutramina;
- rimonabant.

Nie są to zapewne wszystkie tego typu substancje, jednak to te są najczęściej wymieniane w kontekście niebezpieczeństwa dla człowieka. Odnalezienie ofert leków, które w swym składzie zawierają wymienione elementy, nie przysparza większych trudności. Zdając sobie sprawę, że działania służb odpowiedzialnych za ochronę zdrowia i bezpieczeństwo obywateli są niewystarczające, chciałbym zadać Komisji następujące pytania:

1. Czy w obecnej chwili istnieje jednolity wykaz substancji odchudzających, szkodliwych dla ludzi obejmujący całą Unię Europejską?
2. W jaki sposób Komisja chciałaby rozwiązać problem dostępności szkodliwych środków?
3. Czy Komisja posiada dane na temat wielkości szarej strefy, która trudni się produkcją i sprzedażą substancji odchudzających?

Odpowiedź udzielona przez komisarza Tonía Borga w imieniu Komisji
(20 grudnia 2013 r.)

Produkty lecznicze mogą być wprowadzane do obrotu w UE wyłącznie po uzyskaniu pozwolenia na dopuszczenie do obrotu wydanego zgodnie z prawodawstwem farmaceutycznym⁽¹⁾ przez właściwy organ państwa członkowskiego w odniesieniu do jego terytorium lub przez Komisję w odniesieniu do całej UE. W obu tych przypadkach pozwolenie na dopuszczenie do obrotu produktu leczniczego udzielane jest wyłącznie po uprzedniej ocenie jakości, bezpieczeństwa stosowania i skuteczności tego produktu oraz po stwierdzeniu pozytywnego stosunku korzyści do ryzyka związanego z jego stosowaniem.

Wspólnotowy rejestr produktów leczniczych dopuszczonych przez Komisję jest dostępny na stronie internetowej Dyrekcji Generalnej ds. Zdrowia i Konsumentów (DG SANCO)⁽²⁾. Rejestr ten zawiera aktualne pozwolenia na dopuszczenie do obrotu, w tym pozwolenia wydane dla produktów stosowanych w leczeniu otyłości (substancja czynna: orlistat), wycofane pozwolenia (rimonabant, 2009 r.) oraz decyzje wydane w ramach ogólnounijnych procedur wyjaśniających (zawieszenie pozwolenia dla sibutraminy, 2010 r.). Przegląd produktów leczniczych dopuszczonych przez państwa członkowskie jest dostępny na stronie internetowej szefów agencji ds. leków (UE)⁽³⁾. Dodatkowych informacji o produktach dopuszczonych do obrotu w drodze procedury krajowej udzielają właściwe organy państw członkowskich.

⁽¹⁾ Rozporządzenie (WE) nr 726/2004 ustanawiające wspólnotowe procedury wydawania pozwoleń dla produktów leczniczych stosowanych u ludzi i do celów weterynaryjnych i nadzoru nad nimi oraz ustanawiające Europejską Agencję Leków, Dz.U. L 36 z 30.4.2004 z późn. zm. oraz dyrektywa 2001/83/WE w sprawie wspólnotowego kodeksu odnoszącego się do produktów leczniczych stosowanych u ludzi, Dz.U. L 311 z 28.11.2001 z późn. zm.

⁽²⁾ <http://ec.europa.eu/health/documents/community-register/html/alfregister.htm>

⁽³⁾ <http://mri.medagencies.org/Human/>

Komisja nie posiada szczegółowych informacji na temat skali nielegalnej produkcji i sprzedaży substancji odchudzających. W kwietniu i czerwcu tego roku służby celne Zjednoczonego Królestwa przechwyciły nielegalne leki odchudzające. W czerwcowej akcji przechwycono ponad 3,7 mln dawek niedozwolonych leków, w tym leków odchudzających, o wartości około 14,5 mln EUR.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012005/13
to the Commission**

Jarosław Leszek Wałęsa (PPE)

(21 October 2013)

Subject: Access to hazardous weight-loss substances on the EU market

There have recently been disturbing media reports about people dying after taking weight-loss products. Most such substances are illegal and originate from unknown sources. Given that it has become fashionable among young people to lose weight whatever the cost, I would like to draw attention to medicinal products and substances which, in spite of their many side effects, are nevertheless available to consumers. They include the following:

- capsules made from tapeworm larvae;
- dinitrophenol;
- sibutramine;
- rimonabant.

This is not a comprehensive list of all such substances, but these are the most frequently mentioned in terms of their danger to human health. It is not difficult to obtain medicinal products which contain the abovementioned substances. Given that not enough action is taken by the agencies responsible for protecting people's health and safety, I would like to ask the Commission the following:

1. Is there currently an EU-wide register of harmful weight-loss substances?
2. How does the Commission intend to tackle the problem of the availability of harmful substances?
3. Does the Commission have any information on the extent of the illegal production and sale of weight-loss substances?

Answer given by Mr Borg on behalf of the Commission

(20 December 2013)

A medicinal product can be placed on the EU market only after a marketing authorisation has been granted in accordance with the pharmaceutical legislation ⁽¹⁾ either by the competent authority of a Member State for its own territory or by the Commission for the entire EU. In both cases a marketing authorisation is granted to a medicinal product only after its quality, safety and efficacy have been evaluated and a positive benefit-risk balance related to its use has been concluded.

The Community register of medicinal products authorised by the Commission is available on the website of the Health and Consumers Directorate General (DG SANCO) ⁽²⁾ and contains valid marketing authorisations, including those for treatment of obesity (the active substance orlistat), withdrawn authorisations (rimonabant, 2009) as well as decisions in EU-wide referral procedures (suspension of authorisation of sibutramine, 2010). An overview of medicinal products authorised by the Member States is available on the website of the Heads of Medicines Agencies (EU) ⁽³⁾. Additional information about nationally authorised products is provided by the competent authorities of the Member States.

The Commission does not have detailed information on the extent of the illegal production and sale of weight-loss substances. This year illegal weight-loss medicines were seized by UK borders controls in April and June. The June crackdown resulted in the seizure of over 3.7 million doses of unlicensed medicines, including for slimming, worth approximately EUR 14.5 million.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EC) No 726/2004 laying down Community procedures for the authorisation and supervision of medicinal products for human and veterinary use and establishing a European Medicines Agency, OJ L 136, 30.4.2004, as amended, Directive 2001/83/EC on the Community code relating to medicinal products for human use, OJ L 311, 28.11.2001, as amended.

⁽²⁾ <http://ec.europa.eu/health/documents/community-register/html/alfregister.htm>

⁽³⁾ <http://mri.medagencies.org/Human/>

(Ελληνική έκδοση)

Ερώτηση με αίτημα γραπτής απάντησης P-012006/13
προς την Επιτροπή
Eleni Theocharous (PPE)
(21 Οκτωβρίου 2013)

Θέμα: Εκδρομή μαθητών στην κατεχόμενη Κύπρο

Το Ευρωπαϊκό Σχολείο στις Βρυξέλλες, το οποίο χρηματοδοτείται για τη λειτουργία του και από την ΕΕ, δηλαδή και από την Κυπριακή Δημοκρατία που είναι κράτος μέλος της, διοργανώνει εκδρομές για τους μαθητές του στην κατεχόμενη Κύπρο, η οποία συνιστά κατεχόμενο ευρωπαϊκό έδαφος (διαθέτουμε όλα τα έγγραφα). Οι εκδρομές διοργανώνονται μέσω Τουρκίας και του παράνομου αεροδρομίου της Τύμπου και οι μαθητές καλούνται να μην μεταβαίνουν από την «τουρκική Κύπρο» — όπως η οδηγία του σχολείου αποκαλεί τα κατεχόμενα — στις ελεύθερες περιοχές της Κυπριακής Δημοκρατίας.

Θα επέμβει η Επιτροπή για να αποτραπεί η διοργάνωση εκδρομών από ένα εκπαιδευτικό ίδρυμα που λειτουργεί και με δικούς της πόρους και το οποίο, αντί να προάγει τη νομιμότητα και το σεβασμό στην ευρωπαϊκή και διεθνή έννομη τάξη, γίνεται συνεργό στην παρανομία και στην προσβολή της εδαφικής ακεραιότητας της Κυπριακής Δημοκρατίας και των πολιτών της και, ειδικότερα, των προσφύγων;

Αυτά μαθαίνουν στο Ευρωπαϊκό Σχολείο στους νέους μας;

Τους μαθαίνουν να συνδράμουν την παρανομία και να επικροτούν την κατοχή ή ακόμη και να διαμένουν, καθόλου παράξενο, σε κλεμμένες περιουσίες Ελληνοκυπρίων προσφύγων;

Απάντηση του κ. Šefčovič εξ ονόματος της Επιτροπής
(25 Νοεμβρίου 2013)

Έχει ήδη ληφθεί υπόψη από την Επιτροπή το θέμα που έθεσε η κυρία βουλευτής. Η Επιτροπή γνωρίζει πολύ καλά τον ευαίσθητο χαρακτήρα του θέματος. Με βάση τις πληροφορίες που έλαβε, η σχολική εκδρομή έχει έκτοτε καταργηθεί.

Τα ευρωπαϊκά σχολεία είναι επίσημα εκπαιδευτικά ιδρύματα που ελέγχονται από κοινού από τις κυβερνήσεις των κρατών μελών της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης.

(English version)

**Question for written answer P-012006/13
to the Commission**

Eleni Theocharous (PPE)

(21 October 2013)

Subject: School trips to occupied Cyprus

Despite the fact that the Republic of Cyprus, a Member State, contributes to its EU funding, the European School in Brussels, in cooperation with the Turkish authorities, is organising school trips to what is fully documented as occupied European territory in Cyprus, using the illegal airport of Tymbou. Pupils are also being instructed not to cross from what the school authorities refer to as 'Turkish Cyprus' into the free territory of the Republic of Cyprus.

Will the Commission take action to prevent the organisation of such excursions by an EU-funded educational institution which, instead of encouraging compliance with European and international law, is becoming an accessory after the fact to infringements of the territorial sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus and its people, in particular those forced to flee from the occupied territory?

Is this what the European School is teaching our young people today?

Is it teaching them to aid and abet illegal activity, condone acts of occupation and unquestioningly accept accommodation in properties stolen from Greek Cypriot refugees?

Answer given by Mr Šefčovič on behalf of the Commission

(25 November 2013)

The Commission's attention has already been brought to the issue raised by the Honourable Member. The Commission is well aware of the sensitive nature of this issue. Based on the information received, the school trip has since been cancelled.

The European Schools are official educational establishments controlled jointly by the governments of the Member States of the European Union.

(Versión española)

**Pregunta con solicitud de respuesta escrita E-012010/13
a la Comisión**

Willy Meyer (GUE/NGL)
(21 de octubre de 2013)

Asunto: Elecciones al Consejo Agrario en España

El Ministro de Agricultura del Gobierno de España, Miguel Ángel Arias Cañete, ha anunciado su intención de celebrar unas nuevas elecciones al Consejo Agrario durante el primer semestre de 2014. Estas elecciones se producen a 35 años de las últimas elecciones celebradas entre los representantes del sector. El reglamento propuesto favorece la participación de los grandes agricultores dejando a las organizaciones de pequeños agricultores en clara desventaja.

Según han denunciado COAG, UPA y Unión de Uniones, tres de las principales organizaciones agrarias del país, dicha reglamentación de las elecciones favorece a ASAJA, organización de agricultores afín a los principios del partido en el Gobierno. La propuesta de reglamento para las elecciones supone un censo electoral cuya elaboración podría beneficiar la participación de grandes agricultores; dicho censo, además de incluir a las 265 000 personas afiliadas a la seguridad social como agricultores, incluiría a aquellos perceptores de ayudas agrarias por un valor superior a los 3 000 euros anuales, unos 397 000 agricultores, dejando a otros 590 000 fuera del proceso electoral que perciben cantidades menores. Muchos de estos son pequeños agricultores que no llegan a percibir grandes cuantías en ayudas y por tanto quedan fuera del proceso, además abre la puerta a que puedan votar personas cuyas rentas agrarias supongan al menos el 25 % de sus rentas totales. Además de toda la problemática relacionada con la elaboración del censo electoral, varias asociaciones agrarias han denunciado el problema y el sesgo que puede imprimir a dicho proceso electoral el hecho de que solo se pueda votar en las capitales de provincia y en un periodo máximo de 15 días. La distribución de los agricultores a lo largo de la geografía del país supone importantes dificultades, además de unos costes en los que los agricultores deben incurrir, suponiendo otra barrera de entrada para la participación de los pequeños agricultores y aquellos que habitan en sus fincas. Existiendo una estructura nacional de oficinas agrarias que podría permitir el voto en muchas localidades sin un excesivo coste, esta condición supone otra piedra puesta en el camino para que participen cierto tipo de agricultores.

¿Conoce la Comisión el reglamento para las elecciones presentado por el Gobierno de España? ¿Considera que el censo planteado y el reglamento facilitan la participación de todos los agricultores por igual sin imprimir un sesgo hacia cierto tipo? Comparando con otras elecciones agrarias en otros Estados miembros, ¿considera el censo y el reglamento planteado la mejor opción? ¿Podría citar ejemplos de buenas prácticas en las elecciones agrarias en los otros Estados miembros?

Respuesta del Sr. Ciolos en nombre de la Comisión
(25 de noviembre de 2013)

La Comisión no es competente en materia de elecciones al Consejo Agrario en España o en cualquier otro Estado miembro. Es ese un asunto de índole puramente nacional.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012010/13
to the Commission**

Willy Meyer (GUE/NGL)

(21 October 2013)

Subject: Elections to the Agriculture Council in Spain

The Spanish Minister for Agriculture, Miguel Ángel Arias Cañete, has announced his intention to hold new elections to the Agriculture Council in the first half of 2014. These elections come 35 years after the last elections held among representatives in the sector. The proposed rules favour the participation of large-scale farmers, putting small-scale farming organisations at a clear disadvantage.

According to the Coordinating Committee of Farmer and Livestock Breeder Organisations (COAG), the Small-Scale Farmers' Union (UPA) and the Union of Unions, three of the main agricultural organisations in Spain, these election rules favour the Young Farmers' Agricultural Association (ASAJA), the farmers' organisation aligned with the ruling party. The proposed election rules involve an electoral census, which could, in practice, favour participation by large-scale farmers. The census, as well as including 265 000 people registered with the social security scheme as farmers, will include those who receive more than EUR 3 000 in agricultural aid annually, some 397 000 farmers, excluding from the electoral process another 590 000 who receive less. Many of those are small-scale farmers who do not receive large amounts of aid and are therefore left out of the process, and it paves the way for people whose agricultural income accounts for at least 25% of their total income to vote. On top of the problem concerning the electoral census, several agricultural associations have raised the fact that voting can only take place in provincial capitals, and for a maximum of 15 days, as a problem that might skew this electoral process. The fact that farmers are spread right across Spain creates major difficulties, as well as the costs that farmers have to incur, creating another barrier to participation by small-scale farmers and those who live on their farms. As there is a national network of agricultural offices that could make it possible to vote in many places inexpensively, this condition creates another obstacle to participation by certain farmers.

Is the Commission aware of the rules for the elections proposed by the Spanish Government? Does it think that the planned census and the rules facilitate participation by all farmers equally, without creating a bias towards a particular category of farmers? Compared with other agricultural elections in other Member States, does the Commission think the census and the planned rules are the best option? Could it give examples of good practices in agricultural elections in other Member States?

Answer given by Mr Ciolos on behalf of the Commission

(25 November 2013)

The Commission has no competence as regards the elections to the Agriculture Council in Spain or in any other Member State. This is purely a national matter.

(Ελληνική έκδοση)

Ερώτηση με αίτημα γραπτής απάντησης E-012013/13
προς την Επιτροπή
Antigoni Papadopoulou (S&D)
(21 Οκτωβρίου 2013)

Θέμα: Διαφορές στις τιμές υγρών καυσίμων μεταξύ των κρατών μελών της ΕΕ

Σύμφωνα με τα επίσημα στατιστικά στοιχεία που δημοσιεύονται στον δικτυακό τόπο της Ευρωπαϊκής Επιτροπής για την ενέργεια ⁽¹⁾, οι τιμές των υγρών καυσίμων διαφέρουν σε πολύ μεγάλο βαθμό μεταξύ των κρατών μελών της Ένωσης. Οι διαφορές αυτές οφείλονται εν μέρει στις διαφορές στο επίπεδο φορολογίας μεταξύ των κρατών μελών. Παρατηρούνται όμως και τεράστιες διαφοροποιήσεις στο ποσοστό κέρδους (margin) που καρπώνονται οι διάφορες επιχειρήσεις που εμπλέκονται στα ενδιάμεσα στάδια της διαδικασίας, από την αγορά της πρώτης ύλης (crude oil) μέχρι τη διάθεση του τελικού προϊόντος στην αγορά. Συγκεκριμένα, το ποσοστό κέρδους (margin), για την αμόλυβδη βενζίνη 95 οκτανίων, ποικίλει από 0,107 ευρώ το λίτρο στην Κροατία και 0,137 ευρώ το λίτρο στο Ηνωμένο Βασίλειο μέχρι 0,285 ευρώ το λίτρο στην Κύπρο και 0,286 ευρώ το λίτρο στην Πορτογαλία. Παρόμοιες διαφορές παρατηρούνται και σε διάφορα άλλα είδη υγρών καυσίμων. Εκ πρώτης όψεως τέτοιου μεγέθους διαφορές δεν δικαιολογούνται σε μια υποτιθέμενη ενιαία αγορά και μάλιστα για ομοιογενή προϊόντα όπως είναι τα καύσιμα.

Ερωτάται η Επιτροπή:

1. Είναι σε γνώση της οι ανωτέρω διαφορές και παρακολουθεί στενά την εξέλιξη των τιμών των καυσίμων στα κράτη μέλη;
2. Πού κατά την άποψη της οφείλονται οι μεγάλες αυτές διαφορές και δικαιολογούνται με βάση πραγματικά στοιχεία κόστους;
3. Διαπιστώνει η Επιτροπή αισχροκέρδεια, ανεπαρκή λειτουργία της αγοράς ή εκμετάλλευση δεσπόζουσας θέσης σε χώρες όπως η Κύπρος και η Πορτογαλία, όπου το περιθώριο κέρδους (margin) στη διαδικασία διάθεσης των καυσίμων εμφανίζεται εξαιρετικά υψηλό;
4. Τι προτίθεται να πράξει ώστε να υπάρξει σύγκλιση τιμών μεταξύ των κρατών μελών σε μια κατηγορία βασικών για τους πολίτες προϊόντων όπως είναι τα καύσιμα;

Απάντηση του κ. Αλμουνία εξ ονόματος της Επιτροπής
(11 Δεκεμβρίου 2013)

Η Επιτροπή έχει επίγνωση των διαφορών που υφίστανται μεταξύ των κρατών μελών όσον αφορά τα ακαθάριστα περιθώρια λιανικής πώλησης των διάφορων καυσίμων. Η Επιτροπή παρακολουθεί τακτικά τις εξελίξεις των τιμών καυσίμων, κυρίως μέσω του Παρατηρητηρίου Ενεργειακών Αγορών το οποίο παρουσιάζει σε εβδομαδιαία βάση τις τιμές καταναλωτή και τις καθαρές τιμές (άνευ τελών και φόρων) των προϊόντων πετρελαίου στα κράτη μέλη της ΕΕ ⁽²⁾.

Όπως τονίζεται στη μελέτη που διεξήγαγε η εταιρεία Røytu το 2009 ⁽³⁾, οι διαφορές που υφίστανται μεταξύ των κρατών μελών όσον αφορά τα ακαθάριστα περιθώρια λιανικής πώλησης είναι αποτέλεσμα διάφορων παραγόντων όπως οι δομές των αγορών διύλισης και λιανικής πώλησης και οι πρακτικές εμπορίας. Βέβαια, η διαχρονική εξέλιξη των παραγόντων αυτών είναι δυνατόν να διαφέρει από το ένα κράτος μέλος στο άλλο, γεγονός το οποίο ενδέχεται να οξύνει τις διαφορές.

Η Επιτροπή δεν παύει να επαγρυπνεί όσον αφορά τυχόν αντανταγωνιστική συμπεριφορά στην ΕΕ. Εφόσον απαιτείται, η Επιτροπή δεν θα διστάσει να λάβει μέτρα είτε η ίδια είτε σε συνεργασία με τις εθνικές αρχές ανταγωνισμού, εάν λάβει επαρκείς πληροφορίες που δείχνουν την ύπαρξη σύμπραξης μεταξύ επιχειρήσεων ή καταχρηστικής συμπεριφοράς από μέρους μεμονωμένων εταιρειών.

Επιπλέον, η Επιτροπή έχει προτείνει αναθεώρηση της «οδηγίας για τη φορολόγηση της ενέργειας» ⁽⁴⁾ η οποία προσανατολίζεται προς πιο ομοιογενείς συντελεστές ΦΠΑ και έμμεσων φόρων, ιδίως των ειδικών φόρων κατανάλωσης, και η οποία θα μπορούσε να οδηγήσει σε μεγαλύτερη σύγκλιση στις τιμές καυσίμων εντός της ΕΕ.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.energy.eu/>

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/energy/observatory/oil/bulletin_en.htm

⁽³⁾ Διατίθεται στον δικτυακό τόπο: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/oil/studies/doc/2009_oil_market_survey.pdf

⁽⁴⁾ Πρόταση οδηγίας του Συμβουλίου για την τροποποίηση της οδηγίας 2003/96/ΕΚ σχετικά με την αναδιάρθρωση του κοινοτικού πλαισίου φορολογίας των ενεργειακών προϊόντων και της ηλεκτρικής ενέργειας.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012013/13
to the Commission
Antigoni Papadopoulou (S&D)
(21 October 2013)**

Subject: Differences in fuel prices between EU Member States

According to official statistical data on energy published on the Commission website ⁽¹⁾, fuel prices differ to a considerable degree between Member States of the Union. These differences are due in part to the different taxation levels in Member States. However, huge differences have also been noted in the profits (margin) reaped by the various firms involved in the intermediate stages of the procedure, from the purchase of the raw material (crude oil) up to the placing of the final product on the market. Specifically, the profits (margin) for 95 octane unleaded petrol varies from EUR 0.107 per litre in Croatia and EUR 0.137 per litre in the UK, up to EUR 0.285 per litre in Cyprus and EUR 0.286 per litre in Portugal. Similar differences are also seen for other types of fuel. At first sight, such large differences cannot be justified in a supposedly single market, particularly for homogenous products such as fuels.

1. Is the Commission aware of the above differences, and does it monitor fuel price developments in Member States closely?
2. What is the reason, in its view, for these large differences, and can they be justified on the basis of real cost data?
3. Does the Commission see profiteering, inadequate functioning of the market or abuse of a dominant position in countries such as Cyprus and Portugal, where the profits (margin) in the process of bringing fuels to the market appear to be extremely high?
4. What does it intend to do to ensure convergence of prices between Member States in the category of products that are fundamental to citizens, such as fuels?

**Answer given by Mr Almunia on behalf of the Commission
(11 December 2013)**

The Commission is aware of the differences between Member States in the gross retail margins (GRM) of different fuels. It regularly monitors fuel price developments notably via the Market Observatory for Energy Oil, which presents consumer prices and net prices (excluding duties and taxes) of petroleum products in the EU Member States each week ⁽²⁾.

As highlighted in the 2009 Pöyry study ⁽³⁾, differences between Member States in the GRM can be the result of various factors such as the refining and retail market structures and the marketing practices. The evolution in time of these factors can of course be different from one Member State to another, which can possibly amplify the differences.

The Commission remains vigilant in relation to possible anti-competitive behaviour in the EU. If required, it will not hesitate to act, either itself or in coordination with national competition authorities, if it receives sufficient information pointing to collusive behaviour of undertakings or abusive behaviour of individual companies.

Additionally, the Commission has proposed a revised 'Energy Taxation Directive' ⁽⁴⁾ which goes in the direction of more homogeneous VAT and indirect tax rates, in particular excise duties, and which could result in a better convergence of fuel prices in the EU.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.energy.eu/>

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/energy/observatory/oil/bulletin_en.htm

⁽³⁾ Available at : http://ec.europa.eu/energy/oil/studies/doc/2009_oil_market_survey.pdf

⁽⁴⁾ Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 2003/96/EC restructuring the Community framework for the taxation of energy products and electricity.

(Version française)

**Question avec demande de réponse écrite P-012016/13
à la Commission**

Christine De Veyrac (PPE)

(22 octobre 2013)

Objet: Programme Galileo

La presse française vient de se faire l'écho d'un nouveau retard dans l'avancée du programme européen de radionavigation par satellites, Galileo. Elle fait ainsi état de difficultés touchant à la fabrication des satellites de la constellation par l'entreprise OHB choisie en 2011 par la Commission européenne.

La Commission confirme-t-elle l'existence de telles difficultés? Peut-elle préciser, de manière claire et transparente, de quelle nature sont les problèmes rencontrés? Un audit a-t-il été effectué sur cette situation, audit qui mentionnerait de nombreuses erreurs en termes de choix de technologies?

La Commission peut-elle en outre confirmer qu'il a été fait appel aux sociétés Thales Alenia Space et EADS Astrium pour venir en aide au fabricant désigné?

Quel impact auront ces dysfonctionnements sur les délais de livraison de l'ensemble des satellites de la constellation et sur la mise en service de Galileo? Y aura-t-il en outre des conséquences financières?

Enfin, la Commission estime-t-elle sa responsabilité engagée, vu que lorsqu'elle a choisi en 2011 la société OHB, des voix se sont fait entendre? Compte tenu de la technicité du projet, pourquoi se passe-t-on du savoir-faire des champions européens de l'industrie spatiale que sont EADS Astrium et Thales Alenia Space?

Réponse donnée par M. Tajani au nom de la Commission

(4 décembre 2013)

Un certain nombre de défauts de conformité aux spécifications, relevés durant la phase d'essais, retardent la livraison des satellites Galileo par la société OHB. Cela n'est pas inhabituel dans l'industrie spatiale. La durée des essais a été étendue afin de résoudre les problèmes constatés.

L'Agence spatiale européenne (ASE) est en train de mener un audit visant à déterminer pourquoi les retards imputables à OHB n'ont pas été anticipés et détectés à temps par l'équipe de gestion du projet de l'ASE.

Les choix technologiques et de conception de Galileo sont robustes et adéquats. Les essais effectués sur les quatre satellites déjà déployés ont permis de faire la démonstration de l'excellente précision de positionnement.

La Commission n'a pas fait appel à Thales Alenia Space et à EADS Astrium pour que ces sociétés viennent en aide à OHB. En revanche, elle a exhorté l'ASE et OHB à prendre les mesures d'atténuation qui s'imposent et à assumer leurs responsabilités respectives.

La prolongation de la période d'essais remet en cause le calendrier de livraison des satellites de l'OHB. L'ASE soumettra à la Commission un calendrier de lancement révisé dès que le test clé qu'est l'essai thermique sous vide sera achevé. Aucun lancement de satellites Galileo n'aura lieu en 2013. La Commission a invité l'ASE à prendre toutes les mesures appropriées pour garantir la fourniture des services initiaux d'ici à la fin de l'année 2014 ou au début de l'année 2015.

La Commission ne demandera pas de budget supplémentaire. Le contrat forfaitaire conclu avec la société OHB prévoit en effet que le risque de performance est supporté par le contractant. OHB assumera donc les conséquences du retard. Des pénalités pour retard de livraison seront imposées par la Commission conformément aux dispositions contractuelles.

La Commission a attribué le marché à OHB à l'issue d'une mise en concurrence parfaitement conforme aux règles en vigueur dans l'UE. La décision d'attribution était fondée sur les recommandations de l'ASE, selon lesquelles l'offre d'OHB était économiquement la plus avantageuse.

(English version)

**Question for written answer P-012016/13
to the Commission**

Christine De Veyrac (PPE)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Galileo programme

The French press has reported recently a further delay in progress on the European satellite navigation programme Galileo. The report spoke of problems the firm OHB is having with the manufacture of the constellation satellites. OHB was awarded the contract by the Commission in 2011.

Can the Commission confirm that problems have been encountered? Can it state clearly and openly, what these problems are? Has the situation been audited and will the audit mention the numerous mistakes made in terms of the technology chosen?

Can the Commission confirm too that it has asked Thales Alenia Space and EADS Astrium to come to the aid of the appointed manufacturer?

What impact will these problems have on the delivery schedule for all the satellites in the constellation and on Galileo becoming operational? Will this have financial repercussions as well?

Finally, does the Commission consider itself responsible in any way, in view of the objections raised when it awarded the contract to OHB in 2011? Considering the technical nature of this project, why are we not drawing on the know-how of EADS Astrium and Thales Alenia Space, the European leaders in the space industry?

Answer given by Mr Tajani on behalf of the Commission

(4 December 2013)

A number of non-compliances with the specifications identified during testing are delaying the delivery of Galileo satellites by the firm OHB. This is not unusual for space industrial activities. The test duration has been extended to resolve the problems.

The European Space Agency (ESA) is conducting an audit to assess why OHB delays were not anticipated and detected in time by ESA project management.

The Galileo design and technological choices are robust and adequate. Tests carried out on the four satellites already deployed have demonstrated an excellent positioning precision.

The Commission has not requested Thales Alenia Space or EADS Astrium to aid OHB. Instead, the Commission has urged ESA and OHB to take the mitigation measures and assume their respective responsibilities.

The prolongation of tests impacts the delivery schedule for the OHB satellites. ESA will submit to the Commission a revised launch schedule on completion of the key thermal vacuum test. No launch of Galileo satellites will take place in 2013. The Commission has requested ESA to take all appropriate measures to guarantee the provision of early services by the end of 2014, beginning of 2015.

The Commission will not require supplementary budget. Under the firm and fixed price contract concluded with OHB the risk of performance is borne by the contractor. OHB will assume the consequences of the delay. Penalties for the late delivery will be claimed by the Commission in accordance with contractual provisions.

The Commission awarded the contract to OHB as result of a competitive procurement carried out in full compliance with the EU rules. The award decision was based on the ESA recommendations that the OHB tender represented best value for money.

(Deutsche Fassung)

Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012018/13
an die Kommission
Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)
(22. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Der große Energiebericht

Die Medien berichten, dass der große Energiebericht der Europäischen Kommission Gefahr läuft, „beschönigt“ zu werden. Zwei Entwürfe, ein vorläufiger sowie der endgültige Entwurf, wurden dankenswerterweise gleich zur Verfügung gestellt.

Das zuständige Kommissionsmitglied Oettinger wird um eine umfassende Stellungnahme zu den folgenden Punkten gebeten:

1. Inwiefern liegen die Mediendarstellungen richtig, wenn dort geschrieben wird, dass die vorliegenden Zahlen eindeutig darauf hinweisen, dass Kohle-, Gas- und Atomkraftwerke tatsächlich mehr Geld erhalten als Träger erneuerbarer Energien?
2. Warum wurden entsprechende Zahlen aus dem endgültigen Entwurf gestrichen?
3. Inwiefern ist der Vorwurf zutreffend, dass die Beamten von Kommissionsmitglied Oettinger „einige Zahlen streichen müssen“, weil sein „Argument für eine Änderung der Vergabep Praxis in sich zusammenfallen“ würde?
4. Wie bewertet die Kommission insgesamt die sogenannte „Beschönigung“ dieses Berichts?
5. Warum wurden diese Zahlen im Nachhinein als „nicht gesichert“ bezeichnet? Welche Argumente stützen diese Behauptung der Sprecherin von Kommissionsmitglied Oettinger gegenüber den Medien?

Gemeinsame Antwort von Herrn Oettinger im Namen der Kommission
(11. Dezember 2013)

Die Kommission verweist die Frau Abgeordnete auf ihre Antwort auf die schriftliche Anfrage P-011809/2013 von Herrn Leinen, in der auch in vollem Umfang auf die Frage eingegangen wird, die von den Abgeordneten in den oben genannten Anfragen angesprochen wurde.

(Nederlandse versie)

**Vraag met verzoek om schriftelijk antwoord P-013072/13
aan de Commissie**

Kathleen Van Brempt (S&D)

(18 november 2013)

Betreft: Hoeveelheid energiesubsidies per energiebron

Op 5 november 2013 presenteerde de Commissie de communicatie „Delivering the internal electricity market and making the most of public intervention”. De juiste toepassing van ondersteuningsmechanismen is inderdaad cruciaal voor de verdere ontwikkeling van ons energielandschap en het halen van onze energie- en klimaatsdoelstellingen. Dit onderwerp verdient dan ook een uitgebreid debat in al de Europese instellingen. Om dit debat grondig te kunnen voeren moet men echter beschikken over correct, gedetailleerd en recent cijfermateriaal.

Het werkdokument betreffende bovengenoemde communicatie lekte al uit in oktober in de Duitse pers. Dit document bevatte ook passages waarin cijfermateriaal zat opgenomen over de hoeveelheid steun die de verschillende energiebronnen (hernieuwbare, fossiele en nucleaire energie) konden ontvangen in 2011. Deze passages, die te vinden waren op pagina 2 van het werkdokument, werden echter geschrapt en zijn ook niet opgenomen in de definitieve versie van de communicatie.

Kan de Commissie:

1. aangeven waarom deze cijfers geschrapt werden en niet werden opgenomen in de definitieve versie van de communicatie?
2. gedetailleerde cijfers verstrekken over welke soort en welke hoeveelheid steun elke energiecategorie ontvangen heeft, inclusief indirecte ondersteuning en steun inzake onderzoek en ontwikkeling?

Antwoord van de heer Oettinger namens de Commissie

(11 december 2013)

De Commissie wil het geachte Parlementslid verwijzen naar haar antwoord op schriftelijke vraag P-011809/2013 van de heer Jo Leinen, waarin bovenstaande vragen van de geachte Parlementsliden ook volledig worden beantwoord.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012018/13
to the Commission**

Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: The big energy report

The media are reporting that there is a risk of the Commission's big energy report being 'glossed over'. Thankfully, two drafts, a preliminary one and the final draft, were both made available.

I would ask the competent Commissioner, Mr Oettinger, to provide a detailed statement on the following points:

1. To what extent are the media reports correct in stating that the available figures clearly indicate that coal-fired, gas and nuclear power plants actually receive more money than renewable energy sources?
2. Why were the corresponding figures deleted from the final draft?
3. To what extent is the accusation that Commissioner Oettinger's officials had to 'delete a few figures' because his 'argument for changing the way subsidies are granted would collapse' correct?
4. What is the Commission's overall view of the so-called 'glossing over' of this report?
5. Why were these figures subsequently described as 'unreliable'? What are the arguments to support this claim made to the media by the spokeswoman for Commissioner Oettinger?

**Question for written answer P-013072/13
to the Commission**

Kathleen Van Brempt (S&D)

(18 November 2013)

Subject: Amount of energy subsidies per energy source

On 5 November 2013, the Commission presented the communication 'Delivering the internal electricity market and making the most of public intervention'. The correct use of support instruments is indeed crucial for the further development of our energy landscape and the attainment of our energy and climate targets. This subject therefore ought to be debated in detail within all the European institutions. To enable this debate to be conducted thoroughly, however, correct, detailed and recent statistics are needed.

The working document concerning the above communication was already leaked to the German press in October. This document also contained passages which included statistics on the amount of support given to the various energy sources (renewables, fossil fuels and nuclear power) in 2011. However, these passages, which appeared on page 2 of the working document, were deleted and do not appear in the final version of the communication either.

1. Can the Commission indicate why these figures were deleted and were not included in the final version of the communication?
2. Can the Commission provide detailed figures showing what type of support, and how much, was received by each category of energy, including indirect support and support for research and development?

Joint answer given by Mr Oettinger on behalf of the Commission

(11 December 2013)

The Commission would refer the Honourable Member to its answer to written question P-011809/2013 by Mr Jo Leinen, which also fully addresses the question raised by the Honourable Members in the questions above.

(Deutsche Fassung)

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012019/13
an die Kommission**

Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)

(22. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Die angeblich „nicht gesicherten“ Zahlen des Energieberichts

Die — aus bisher nicht nachvollziehbaren Gründen — gestrichenen Zahlen im vorläufigen Entwurf der Europäischen Kommission zeichnen ein fragwürdiges Bild über die Förderung von Energieformen im Jahre 2011. 26 Mrd. EUR wurden für fossile Kraftwerke, 35 Milliarden (laut Medienbericht) EUR für nukleare Anlagen und für indirekte Förderungen von Energie aus Kohle und Gas rund 40 Mrd. EUR von den Mitgliedsländern ausgegeben. „Lediglich“ 30 Mrd. EUR an Fördergeldern gehen an erneuerbare Energieträger (renewable energy resources).

1. Warum erhalten die erneuerbaren Energieträger im Vergleich zum herkömmlichen Energiesektor verhältnismäßig wenig Förderungen — gerade angesichts der notwendigen Energiewende?
2. Wie lässt sich angesichts dieser Zahlen die in Medienartikeln zitierte Aussage von Kommissionsmitglied Oettinger untermauern, erneuerbare Energien würden zu hoch gefördert?
3. Wie gedenkt die Kommission, in Zukunft die Vergabe von Fördergeldern zu regeln?
4. Sollte sich die Vergabe der Fördergelder weiter schwerpunktmäßig auf herkömmliche Energieträger konzentrieren, wie rechtfertigt die Kommission dies?

Antwort von Herrn Oettinger im Namen der Kommission

(29. November 2013)

Die Kommission verweist die Frau Abgeordnete auf ihre Antwort auf die schriftliche Anfrage P-11809/2013 ⁽¹⁾.

Die Kommission hat ihre Vorstellungen zu staatlichen Interventionen im Elektrizitätssektor in ihrer Mitteilung vom 5. November 2013 ⁽²⁾ dargelegt. Öffentliche Interventionen müssen gut konzipiert und verhältnismäßig sein, damit sie optimal genutzt werden können, die Energiepreise erschwinglich bleiben und das Funktionieren des Binnenmarktes nicht beeinträchtigt wird. Diese Grundsätze gelten für alle Technologien.

In einigen Mitgliedstaaten, z. B. Deutschland, gibt es Anhaltspunkte dafür, dass erneuerbare Energien in einer Höhe gefördert wurden, die die Erzeugungskosten überstieg. Die Kommission rät zwar von rückwirkenden Kürzungen ab, dennoch vertritt sie die Auffassung, dass die kostenorientierte Förderung erneuerbarer Energien für langfristige stabile Investitionsbedingungen im Hinblick auf erneuerbare Energien wichtig ist.

Wenn die Gewährung von Subventionen staatliche Beihilfen involviert, gelten hierfür die Regelungen des Vertrags und die einschlägige Rechtsprechung. Liegt keine staatliche Beihilfe vor, können Subventionen dennoch unter die für gemeinwirtschaftliche Verpflichtungen geltenden Regelungen der Elektrizitätsrichtlinie ⁽³⁾ fallen. In der oben genannten Mitteilung beschreibt die Kommission, welche Grundsätze und Kriterien sie bei der Überprüfung der diesbezüglichen staatlichen Interventionen zugrunde zu legen beabsichtigt.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/parliamentary-questions.html>

⁽²⁾ Mitteilung der Kommission „Vollendung des Elektrizitätsbinnenmarktes und optimale Nutzung staatlicher Interventionen“, C(2013)7243 endg.

⁽³⁾ Richtlinie 2009/72/EG des Europäischen Parlaments und des Rates vom 13. Juli 2009 über gemeinsame Vorschriften für den Elektrizitätsbinnenmarkt und zur Aufhebung der Richtlinie 2003/54/EG, ABl. L 211 vom 14.8.2009, S. 55-93.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012019/13
to the Commission**

Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: The allegedly 'unreliable' figures in the energy report

The — for reasons which are currently unclear — deleted figures in the Commission's preliminary draft paint a dubious picture of the subsidising of energy sources in 2011. The Member States paid out EUR 26 billion for fossil fuel power stations, EUR 35 billion (according to media reports) for nuclear plants and around EUR 40 billion in indirect subsidies for energy from coal and gas. 'Only' EUR 30 billion in subsidies goes to renewable energy resources.

1. Why do renewable energy resources receive relatively little in the way of subsidies compared with the conventional energy sector — particularly in view of the necessary energy turnaround?
2. In light of these figures, what support is there for the statement by Commissioner Oettinger quoted in the media that renewable energies receive too much in the way of subsidies?
3. How does the Commission intend to regulate the granting of subsidies in the future?
4. If the granting of subsidies is to continue to focus on conventional energy sources, how does the Commission justify this?

Answer given by Mr Oettinger on behalf of the Commission

(29 November 2013)

The Commission would refer the Honourable Member to its answer to written question P-11809/2013 ⁽¹⁾.

The Commission has set out its vision on public interventions in the electricity sector in its communication of 5th November 2013 ⁽²⁾. Public intervention must be proportionate and well designed in order to make most of it, to keep energy bills affordable and not to distort the functioning of the internal market. Such principles apply to all technologies.

For some Member States, for example Germany, evidence exists that for some time renewables received support above the costs of production. Whilst advising against retroactive cuts, the Commission considers that cost-reflective support for renewables is important to underpin long-term stable investment conditions for renewables.

If granting of subsidies involves state aid, it is regulated by the Treaty and the relevant state aid jurisprudence. If no state aid is involved, subsidies may still fall under the rules on Public Service Obligations of the Electricity Directive ⁽³⁾. In the abovementioned Communication, the Commission sets out which principles and criteria it intends to rely on when reviewing public interventions in this context.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/parliamentary-questions.html>

⁽²⁾ Communication from the Commission 'Delivering the internal electricity market and making the most of public intervention', C(2013) 7243 final.

⁽³⁾ Directive 2009/72/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 July 2009 concerning common rules for the internal market in electricity and repealing Directive 2003/54/EC, OJ L 211, 14.8.2009, p. 55-93.

(Deutsche Fassung)

Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012020/13

an die Kommission

Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)

(22. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Liste von Kommissionsmitglied Oettinger

Infrastruktur im Sinn des Allgemeinwohls ist eine Sache. Die andere ist es, wenn Bürgerinnen und Bürger der Europäischen Union unter Großprojekten leiden. Es ist eine Grundsatzfrage, ob ab einem gewissen Ausmaß noch von „Allgemeinwohl“ die Rede sein kann, wenn ganze Landstriche massive Eingriffe in das Landschaftsbild und EinwohnerInnen Auswirkungen von Leitungen fürchten müssen.

1. Viele Bürgerinnen und Bürger sind um ihre Sicherheit und ihre Lebensqualität sehr besorgt, wenn die Europäische Union Energie-Großprojekte im Schnellverfahren umsetzt und die UVP-Richtlinien quasi „umgeworfen“ werden. Kann die Kommission ausführlich dazu Stellung nehmen, wie sie den betreffenden Bürgerinnen und Bürgern, von deren Steuergeldern auch die Subventionen für dieselben Projekte bezahlt werden, erklären möchte, warum Großleitungen und Großprojekte mit eingeschränktem UVP-Verfahren durchgesetzt werden sollen?
2. Wie rechtfertigt die Kommission im Einzelfall, dass nicht umweltschonendere und langfristig gesehen weniger invasive Leitungsformen genutzt werden, weil sie teurer sind?
3. Welche Energie-Infrastrukturprojekte in Österreich wurden in diese Liste aufgenommen? Wie gewährleistet die Kommission den Schutz der Bürgerinnen und Bürger bzw. den Erhalt der Lebensqualität in den betroffenen Gebieten?

Antwort von Herrn Oettinger im Namen der Kommission

(4. Dezember 2013)

1. Vorhaben von gemeinsamem Interesse sind Gegenstand einer Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfung. Sie durchlaufen jedoch effizientere Genehmigungsverfahren, wobei der hohe Standard der Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfung und das hohe Umweltschutzniveau beibehalten werden. Zu diesem Zweck werden mit der Infrastruktur-Verordnung ⁽¹⁾ eine Reihe von Maßnahmen eingeführt, wie eine verbindliche Gesamthöchstdauer für Genehmigungsverfahren (diese beträgt in der Regel 3,5 Jahre), die Benennung einer zuständigen nationalen Behörde für die Koordinierung der Genehmigungsverfahren, ein transparenter und offener Ansatz für die Anhörung der Öffentlichkeit und der betroffenen Kreise sowie die Verpflichtung der Mitgliedstaaten, die Notwendigkeit einer Straffung der Umweltverträglichkeitsprüfungen zu bewerten und die von ihnen für die Straffung als zweckmäßig erachteten relevanten Maßnahmen zu ergreifen. Ein Leitfadens hierzu wurde auf der Website der GD Energie veröffentlicht ⁽²⁾.

2. In der Liste der Vorhaben von gemeinsamem Interesse sind die Projekte aufgeführt, die unter energiepolitischen Gesichtspunkten erforderlich sind. Die Vereinbarkeit des jeweiligen Vorhabens mit dem Umweltrecht wird von den nationalen Behörden geprüft, was die öffentliche Beteiligung der betroffenen Akteure voraussetzt.

3. Informationen über die nach Mitgliedstaaten aufgeführten Vorhaben von gemeinsamem Interesse finden Sie auf der Website der GD Energie:

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/infrastructure/pci/doc/2013_pci_projects_country.pdf

Um die Bürgerbeteiligung in einer sehr frühen Phase der Projektplanung sicherzustellen, ist in der Infrastruktur-Verordnung geregelt, dass die Öffentlichkeit frühzeitig vor der Einreichung der vollständigen Unterlagen bei der Genehmigungsbehörde durch den Projektträger angehört werden muss. Stellt sich heraus, dass ein Projekt, das auf der Unionsliste der Vorhaben von gemeinsamem Interesse steht, mit dem EU-Recht nicht in Einklang steht, sollte es von dieser Liste gestrichen werden.

⁽¹⁾ Verordnung (EU) Nr. 347/2013 des Europäischen Parlaments und des Rates vom 17. April 2013 zu Leitlinien für die transeuropäische Energieinfrastruktur und zur Aufhebung der Entscheidung Nr. 1364/2006/EG und zur Änderung der Verordnungen (EG) Nr. 713/2009, (EG) Nr. 714/2009 und (EG) Nr. 715/2009 (ABl. L 115 vom 25.4.2013, S. 39).

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/energy/infrastructure/doc/assessment/20130919_pci-en-guidance.pdf

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012020/13
to the Commission**

Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Commissioner Oettinger's list

Infrastructure of common interest is one thing. It is quite another when citizens of the European Union suffer as a result of large-scale projects. It is a fundamental question whether, as projects reach a certain scale, it is still possible to regard them as 'of common interest' if whole regions have to fear major disruption to the landscape and the residents the effects of pipelines.

1. Many citizens are very concerned for their safety and quality of life if the European Union implements large-scale energy projects using an accelerated procedure and the EIA directives are virtually 'overturned'. Can the Commission provide a detailed statement on how it might explain to the citizens concerned, from whose money as taxpayers the subsidies for these projects are actually paid, why large pipelines are to be installed and large-scale projects implemented with a limited EIA procedure?
2. In relation to specific cases, how does the Commission justify the fact that pipelines that are more environmentally friendly and less invasive in the long term are not being used because they are more expensive?
3. Which energy infrastructure projects in Austria have been included on this list? How will the Commission ensure that citizens are protected and quality of life is maintained in the areas concerned?

Answer given by Mr Oettinger on behalf of the Commission

(4 December 2013)

1. The Projects of Common Interest are subject to an environmental impact assessment. The Projects of Common Interest shall, however, benefit from more efficient permitting procedures, whilst the high standard of environmental assessment and protection is maintained. To this end, the Infrastructure Regulation ⁽¹⁾ introduces a number of measures such as: the introduction of a binding overall time limit for permit procedures of normally 3,5 years, a national competent authority for the coordination of permit procedures, a transparent and open approach to consultation of the public and stakeholders, and the obligation on Member States to assess the need for streamlining environmental assessment procedures, and to take relevant streamlining measures they have identified as appropriate. A guidance document is published on DG Energy's website ⁽²⁾.

2. The PCI list identifies the projects which are needed from the energy policy perspective. The compatibility of the project with environmental law is assessed by the national authorities, which require public participation of the involved stakeholders.

3. The information on Projects of Common interest listed by Member State can be found on DG ENER website:
http://ec.europa.eu/energy/infrastructure/pci/doc/2013_pci_projects_country.pdf

To ensure that citizens are involved in the very early phase of the project planning process, the Infrastructure Regulation introduced a mandatory early public consultation before the project promoter submits the complete file to the permit granting authority. If a project included in the PCI list turns out not to be in compliance with the EU acquis, it should be removed from the Union list of PCIs.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) No 347/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2013 on guidelines for trans-European energy infrastructure and repealing Decision No 1364/2006/EC and amending Regulations (EC) No 713/2009, (EC) No 714/2009 and (EC) No 715/2009 (OJ L 115/39, 25.4.2013).

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/energy/infrastructure/doc/assessment/20130919_pci-en-guidance.pdf

(Deutsche Fassung)

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012021/13
an die Kommission**

Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)

(22. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Die neue Wirtschaftspolitik Frankreichs

Die französische Nationalversammlung hat vor kurzem ein Gesetz verabschiedet, das die Schließung von Privatfirmen mit mehr als 1 000 Mitarbeitern unter Strafe stellen soll, falls die Firma an sich noch wirtschaftlich ist.

1. Wie bewertet die Kommission derart protektionistische Eingriffe in die Privatwirtschaft?
2. Werden sich nach diesem offensichtlich progressiven Schritt nach Ansicht der Kommission solche Vorgehensweisen in der EU möglicherweise mehren?
 - 2.1. Wenn ja, welche Konsequenzen muss die Europäische Union in Betracht ziehen, was mögliche Schäden durch Firmenabwanderungen aufgrund auferlegter Entscheidungszwänge anbetrifft?
 - 2.2. Wird sich dies nach Ansicht der Kommission auf das außereuropäische Investitionsvolumen auswirken? Wenn ja, in welcher Höhe können sich mögliche Verluste bei der Investitionstätigkeit bewegen?

Antwort von László Andor im Namen der Kommission

(17. Dezember 2013)

Die französische Nationalversammlung hat am 1. Oktober 2013 einen Gesetzesentwurf verabschiedet, der derzeit im Senat erörtert wird und Unternehmen mit mehr als 1 000 Mitarbeitern, die einen Standort schließen, verpflichtet, nach einem möglichen Käufer zu suchen. Im Gesetzesentwurf ist tatsächlich die Möglichkeit vorgesehen, Sanktionen zu verhängen, wenn i) das Unternehmen nicht nach einem Käufer für diesen Standort sucht oder ii) das Unternehmen nicht ausreichend begründet, weshalb es ein gültiges Angebot ablehnt.

Ebensowenig wie die Kommission Unternehmensentscheidungen, z. B. zur Umstrukturierung, beeinflusst, mischt sie sich in nationale Gesetzgebungsakte hinsichtlich der Konsequenzen solcher Entscheidungen ein bzw. kommentiert diese, es sei denn, sie verstoßen gegen EU-Recht. Abgesehen von den Vorschriften für die Arbeitnehmerbeteiligung, die in mehreren EU-Richtlinien geregelt wird, unterliegen Unternehmensumstrukturierungen und insbesondere Unternehmensschließungen als solche nicht den EU-Rechtsvorschriften.

Die Kommission ist nicht in der Lage, die Konsequenzen eines Gesetzes, das später verabschiedet wird, für ausländische Investitionen oder seinen Einfluss auf andere Länder nicht antizipieren. Die Kommission merkt jedoch an, dass die geplanten neuen Anforderungen Unternehmensschließungen zwar erschweren, den Umfang der Auflagen für Unternehmensschließungen allerdings nicht grundlegend ändern würden, da in Frankreich infolge der Annahme des Gesetzes zur Beschäftigungssicherung vom Juni 2013 und in vielen anderen Mitgliedstaaten bereits vergleichbare Verpflichtungen existieren.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012021/13
to the Commission
Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)
(22 October 2013)**

Subject: France's new economic policy

The French National Assembly has recently passed a law that provides for the imposition of a fine in the event of the closure of a private company with more than 1 000 employees if the company is still viable.

1. What is the Commission's view of this kind of protectionist intervention in the private sector?
2. In its view, will such practices potentially increase in the EU following this obviously progressive step?
 - 2.1. If so, what consequences does the European Union need to take into consideration as regards possible damage caused by businesses relocating on account of the constraints imposed on their decisions?
 - 2.2. In the Commission's opinion, will this affect the volume of investments from outside Europe? If so, how large might potential losses in investments be?

**Answer given by Mr Andor on behalf of the Commission
(17 December 2013)**

The French National Assembly adopted on 1 October 2013 a draft law, currently in discussion in the Senate, which requires companies with more than 1 000 employees closing a site to look for a potential buyer. The draft law indeed introduces the possibility to impose sanctions if (i) the company fails to look for a buyer for this site or (ii) if it does not sufficiently justify the reasons for refusing a valid offer.

In the same way as it does not interfere in companies' business decisions, including when they lead to restructuring, the Commission does not intrude, nor comment, on national legislative acts governing the consequences of such decisions insofar as they do not collide with EC law. In that respect, apart from rules on employee involvement, governed by several EU Directives, corporate restructuring, and in particular, the closure of undertakings is not in itself subject to any EU legal provision.

The Commission is not in a situation to anticipate the consequences of the law which will eventually be passed on inward investment or its influence in other countries. It notes however that the foreseen new requirements, while making the process for site closure more complex, would not fundamentally change the level of constraint imposed on closing companies, as similar obligations already exist in France, following the adoption of the law on securing employment in June 2013, and in many other Member States.

(Deutsche Fassung)

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012022/13
an die Kommission
Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)
(22. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Finanzierung von Tierschutz in Rumänien

Das Problem begleitet Europa schon seit Jahren: Offenbar kommen in Rumänien immer wieder Tiere, vor allem Straßenhunde in großer Zahl zu Tode. Solche Maßnahmen seien notwendig, weil eine Gefahr für die Bevölkerung bestehe, heißt es mitunter.

1. Wieviel Geld hat Rumänien in den letzten fünf Jahren von der Europäischen Union (in Form von Fondsauszahlungen, entsprechenden Förderprogrammen etc.) erhalten, um die Situation der streunenden Tiere auf humane Weise zu einer guten Lösung zu bringen?
2. Wie hat die Kommission die korrekte Verwendung der Gelder überprüft, bzw. waren sie überhaupt ganz konkret für diesen bestimmten Zweck gebunden?
3. Wie erklärt die Kommission, dass sich der Zustand in diesem Jahr offenbar eklatant verschlechtert hat, so dass europäische Bürgerinnen und Bürger aller Länder die Notwendigkeit sehen, gegen die Vorgehensweisen in Rumänien zu protestieren?

**Antwort von Tonio Borg im Namen der Kommission
(10. Dezember 2013)**

Die Kommission möchte die Frau Abgeordnete auf die Antworten zu den schriftlichen Anfragen E-006543/2011, E-007161/2011, E-002062/2012 und E-005276/2013 ⁽¹⁾ verweisen, die sich mit der Problematik streunender Hunde und der Kontrolle des Hundebestands beschäftigen.

Die Zuständigkeiten der EU ermöglichen der Kommission nicht, Programme zur Bekämpfung streunender Hunde zu finanzieren.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/parliamentary-questions.html>

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012022/13
to the Commission**

Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Funding of animal welfare in Romania

For many years, Europe has been dealing with the problem of animals in Romania, stray dogs in particular, apparently being killed in large numbers on a regular basis. Such measures are sometimes said to be necessary because there is a danger to the people.

1. How much money has Romania received from the European Union in the last five years (in the form of Fund payments, corresponding support programmes, etc.) in order to find a good and humane solution to the problem of the stray animals?
2. How has the Commission verified the proper use of these funds, or were they ever actually tied very specifically to this purpose?
3. How does it explain the fact that the situation has clearly deteriorated so dramatically this year that European citizens in all countries feel the need to protest against the practices in Romania?

Answer given by Mr Borg on behalf of the Commission

(10 December 2013)

The Honourable Member is invited to refer to the answers to written questions E-006543/2011, E-007161/2011, E-002062/2012 and E-005276/2013 ⁽¹⁾ which address the issues of stray dogs and of dog population management.

EU competences do not allow the Commission to fund stray dogs control programs.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/parliamentary-questions.html>

(Deutsche Fassung)

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012024/13
an die Kommission
Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)
(22. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Regierungskrise in Italien — Vertrauensverlust

In den vergangenen Tagen wurden zahlreiche Medienberichte laut, die die — nun bereits wiederholt stattfindende — Regierungskrise in Italien zum Thema hatten.

1. Wie schätzt die Kommission die Stabilität der italienischen Regierung ein?
2. Wie schätzt die Kommission die negativen Auswirkungen der Regierungskrise in Italien ein, insbesondere das Ausmaß des Vertrauensverlustes im Hinblick auf die italienischen Bürgerinnen und Bürger und den Weltmarkt?
3. Wie sehr dürfte die Regierungskrise in Italien das Rating des Landes beeinflussen, und wie schwerwiegend sind wiederum die Folgen für den Euroraum?

**Antwort von Herrn Rehn im Namen der Kommission
(3. Dezember 2013)**

- 1) Die Kommission äußert sich nicht zu innenpolitischen Fragen. Sie hat zur Kenntnis genommen, dass beide Kammern des Parlaments der Regierung am 2. Oktober 2013 ihr Vertrauen ausgesprochen haben und die Regierungskrise, die Ende September begonnen hatte, damit beendet worden ist. Die Kommission vertraut darauf, dass das Land seinen Verpflichtungen auf europäischer Ebene weiterhin nachkommt.
 - 2) Die Reaktion der Märkte auf die politischen Spannungen fiel verhalten aus: Die Spreads zehnjähriger Staatsanleihen erhöhten sich nur geringfügig und gaben anschließend wieder nach. Allgemein betrachtet sind stabile politische Verhältnisse wichtig für eine weitere Stärkung des Vertrauens von Investoren und Verbrauchern und zur Steigerung der Binnennachfrage.
 - 3) Es ist nicht Aufgabe der Kommission, sich zu Spekulationen über die Stabilität oder künftige Entwicklung des Länderratings zu äußern.
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(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012024/13
to the Commission
Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)
(22 October 2013)**

Subject: Governmental crisis in Italy — loss of confidence

In recent days, there have been numerous media reports on the subject of the — now recurring — governmental crisis in Italy.

1. What is the Commission's assessment of the stability of the Italian Government?
2. What is its assessment of the negative effects of the governmental crisis in Italy, in particular the scale of the loss of confidence on the part of Italian citizens and the world market?
3. To what extent is the governmental crisis in Italy likely to affect the country's rating, and, in turn, how serious will the consequences be for the euro area?

**Answer given by Mr Rehn on behalf of the Commission
(3 December 2013)**

1. The Commission does not comment on domestic political matters. It took note that the governmental crisis which had arisen at the end of September ended with the Government winning a confidence vote in both houses of parliament on 2 October 2013. The Commission trusts that the country will maintain its European commitments.
 2. Market reactions to tensions in the political sphere were mild, with spreads on 10-year government bond yields increasing only marginally and falling back afterwards. In a broader perspective, for investor and consumer confidence to grow further and to lift domestic demand, political stability is important.
 3. It is not the role of the Commission to comment on speculations of the stability or future changes in the market rating.
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(Deutsche Fassung)

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012025/13
an die Kommission
Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)
(22. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Qualitätsunterschiede bei Gerichtsgutachten

Die Bestellung von Gutachtern in Sorgerechtsfällen funktioniert europaweit nach unterschiedlichen Regelungen, die — insbesondere was die fachlichen Qualifikationen angeht — zunehmend häufiger zu unbilligen Ergebnissen führen. In einem derart sensiblen und auswirkungsstarken Bereich sind unwissenschaftliche und schlicht falsche Gutachten in großem Ausmaß kritisch zu sehen.

1. Ist der Kommission die oben genannte Problematik bekannt?
2. Gibt es bereits EU-weite Empfehlungen zur Qualitätssicherung bei Gutachten (auch im Hinblick auf wissenschaftliche Standards und Testverfahren)? Wenn nicht, sind dann in naher Zukunft derartige Empfehlungen geplant?
3. Wie bewertet die Kommission die unterschiedlichen Standards bei Gutachten und deren Auswirkungen im Lichte der gegenseitigen justiziellen Anerkennung?
4. Sieht die Kommission insbesondere bei grenzüberschreitenden Sorgerechtsstreitigkeiten Probleme in Bezug auf Gutachten von unterschiedlichem qualitativem Niveau?

**Antwort von Frau Reding im Namen der Kommission
(8. Januar 2014)**

Der Kommission liegen bislang keine Informationen über Probleme aufgrund unterschiedlicher Rechtsvorschriften der Mitgliedstaaten über die Bestellung von Gutachtern in Sorgerechtsfällen vor. Die Kommission prüft diese Frage derzeit jedoch im Zusammenhang mit der Überarbeitung der Anwendung der Verordnung (EG) Nr. 1206/2001 des Rates über die Zusammenarbeit zwischen den Gerichten der Mitgliedstaaten auf dem Gebiet der Beweisaufnahme in Zivil- oder Handelssachen.

Im Zuge dieser Überarbeitung hat die Kommission den Mitgliedstaaten einen Fragebogen zugesandt, um Informationen über die praktische Anwendung der Verordnung zu sammeln. Die darin enthaltene Frage Nr. 40 bezieht sich auf die Folgen der Anwendung unterschiedlicher Qualitätsstandards auf Gutachten infolge voneinander abweichender nationaler Rechtsvorschriften.

Die Qualitätsstandards für Gutachten und ihre Auswirkungen in zivilrechtlichen Verfahren unterliegen nicht den EU-Rechtsvorschriften. Die Verordnung (EG) Nr. 1206/2001 betrifft insbesondere die Mechanismen der Zusammenarbeit zwischen den Gerichten der Mitgliedstaaten zum Zweck der grenzübergreifenden Beweisaufnahme. Andere Themen wie der Beweismittelbegriff, die Beweislast, die Beweiswürdigung und das Beweismaß unterliegen dem jeweiligen nationalen Recht. Gemäß der Verordnung soll das ersuchte Gericht das Gesuch zwar nach Maßgabe des Rechts seines Mitgliedstaats erledigen, doch wird die Wirkung solcher Beweise im ersuchenden Mitgliedstaat nicht durch das EU-Recht geregelt. Die Gerichte des ersuchenden Mitgliedstaats müssen daher bei der Würdigung der von dem ausländischen Gericht übermittelten Beweise (einschließlich der Qualität von Gutachten) und bei der Ermittlung ihrer Beweiskraft ihr nationales Recht anwenden.

Die Kommission sammelt nun Informationen über die Auswirkungen dieser uneinheitlichen Rechtslage auf die grenzübergreifende Beweisaufnahme. Diese Informationen werden in den Bewertungsbericht einfließen, der 2014 angenommen werden soll. Anschließend wird die Kommission prüfen, welche Folgemaßnahmen möglicherweise erforderlich sind.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012025/13
to the Commission**

Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Quality differences in expert opinions in court

The appointment of experts in custody cases operates according to different rules throughout Europe. These different rules — in particular where professional qualifications are concerned — are increasingly resulting in unsatisfactory outcomes. In a sensitive area such as this, where the consequences can be serious, unscientific and quite simply erroneous expert opinions on a large scale are to be viewed with criticism.

1. Is the Commission aware of this problem?
2. Do EU-wide recommendations on quality assurance in relation to expert opinions already exist (including in relation to scientific standards and testing procedures)? If not, are there any plans for such recommendations in the near future?
3. What is the Commission's view of the differing standards for expert opinions and their effects in light of the mutual recognition of judicial decisions?
4. In particular, does it see problems in connection with cross-border custody disputes in respect of expert opinions of differing quality?

Answer given by Mrs Reding on behalf of the Commission

(8 January 2014)

To date the Commission has not received information on problems derived from diverging Member State laws on the appointment of experts in custody cases. The Commission is, however, currently examining this issue in the context of the review of the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1206/2001 on cooperation between the courts of the Member States in the taking of evidence in civil or commercial matters.

As part of this review exercise, the Commission sent a questionnaire to Member States to gather information on the practical operation of the regulation. Question No 40 addresses the consequences of applying different quality standards to expert opinions as a result of diverging national laws.

EU legislation does not govern quality standards of expert opinions or their effects in civil litigation. Regulation 1206/2001 covers in particular the cooperation mechanisms between Member State courts for the purposes of the cross-border taking of evidence. Other issues such as means of evidence, burden of proof, assessment of evidence and standard of evidence are left to national law. Although the regulation provides that the requested court shall execute the request in accordance with its own law, the effect of such evidence in the requesting Member State is not governed by EC law. The courts of the requesting Member State must thus apply national law to assess the evidence delivered by the foreign court, including the quality of expert opinions, and to establish its evidentiary value.

The Commission is now collecting input on the impact of this legal diversity on the cross-border taking of evidence, which will be reflected in the evaluation report to be adopted in 2014. The Commission will thereafter consider the follow-up action that may be required.

(Versiunea în limba română)

Întrebarea cu solicitare de răspuns scris E-012026/13
adresată Comisiei
Monica Luisa Macovei (PPE)
(22 octombrie 2013)

Subiect: Restricțiile comerciale aplicate de Rusia statelor membre ale UE și țărilor din Parteneriatul estic

În cadrul observațiilor sale referitoare la restricțiile vamale aplicate de Federația Rusă începând cu 12 septembrie 2013 produselor lactate din Lituania, comisarul pentru comerț, Karel de Gucht, a declarat la 8 octombrie 2013 că va introduce acest subiect pe ordinea de zi a Consiliului pentru comerțul cu mărfuri din cadrul Organizației Mondiale a Comerțului (OMC), care urma să aibă loc la 18 octombrie 2013.

În plus, la 10 octombrie 2013, în urma unui dezacord cu guvernul neerlandez, Federația Rusă a amenințat că va impune restricții asupra importurilor de lalele și de brânză cu pastă tare din Țările de Jos.

Aceste restricții urmează unor măsuri vamale similare aplicate de Federația Rusă Ucrainei și Republicii Moldova. Aceste sancțiuni au fost condamnate atât de Parlament, în cuprinsul rezoluției sale referitoare la presiunea exercitată de Rusia asupra țărilor din cadrul Parteneriatului estic (în contextul apropiatului summit al Parteneriatului estic ce va avea loc la Vilnius), cât și de Comisie, ca fiind o formă inacceptabilă de presiune. La 11 septembrie 2013, comisarul pentru extindere și politica de vecinătate, Ștefan Füle, a criticat obstacolele artificiale din calea comerțului, cum ar fi interdicțiile aplicate importurilor, care nu par să fie compatibile cu normele OMC, precum și practicile vamale greoaie.

În prezent, Federația Rusă menține în continuare numai interdicția aplicată importurilor de vinuri din Republica Moldova. Serviciile sanitare din ambele țări desfășoară în prezent negocieri, însă amânarea eliminării restricțiilor cauzează pierderi semnificative producătorilor și exportatorilor din Republica Moldova.

1. A ridicat comisarul de Gucht problema presiunilor exercitate de Federația Rusă asupra țărilor din cadrul Parteneriatului estic la Consiliul pentru comerțul cu mărfuri al OMC, care a avut loc la 18 octombrie 2013?
2. Ce măsuri întreprinde Comisia pentru a împiedica Federația Rusă să recurgă la interdicții comerciale cu scopul de a exercita presiuni politice asupra statelor membre și a țărilor partenere?

Răspuns dat de dl De Gucht în numele Comisiei
(13 decembrie 2013)

1. Comisia a ridicat problema restricțiilor impuse transportatorilor lituanieni, salutând încheierea acestora la data de 10 octombrie 2013, precum și problema interdicției aplicate produselor lituaniene, în vigoare începând cu data de 7 octombrie 2013, în cadrul reuniunii Consiliului pentru comerțul cu mărfuri al Organizației Mondiale a Comerțului din data de 18 octombrie 2013. Comisia a profitat de această ocazie pentru a-și exprima preocupările cu privire la măsurile motivate politic adoptate de Rusia.
2. UE a precizat clar faptul că presiunea exercitată asupra țărilor din cadrul Parteneriatului estic, legată de posibila semnare a acordurilor de asociere (AA), inclusiv de stabilirea de zone de liber schimb complex și cuprinzător (ZLSCC) este inacceptabilă și că UE își va sprijini partenerii și va fi alături de aceștia.

Comisia este de părere că cel mai bun răspuns în fața presiunii externe este semnarea și punerea rapidă în aplicare, cu titlu provizoriu, a AA/ZLSCC cu partenerii din est care optează pentru acest lucru. În plus, UE analizează în prezent toate posibilitățile de sprijin, inclusiv măsurile comerciale. Un exemplu de măsură comercială de sprijin care ar putea fi adoptată de UE ar fi liberalizarea importurilor de vin din Moldova. Acest lucru ar putea fi realizat prin intermediul unei modificări a actualului Regulament (CE) nr. 55/2008 al Consiliului (¹) privind preferințele comerciale autonome ale UE (Regulamentul PCA) pentru Moldova. La 25 septembrie 2013, Comisia a prezentat o propunere legislativă în acest sens, care este analizată în prezent în cadrul Parlamentului și al Consiliului.

În plus, Comisia va continua să colaboreze îndeaproape cu statele membre pentru a aborda obstacolele încă existente care afectează exporturile UE către Rusia.

⁽¹⁾ Regulamentul (CE) nr. 55/2008 al Consiliului din 21 ianuarie 2008 de introducere a unor preferințe comerciale autonome pentru Republica Moldova și de modificare a Regulamentului (CE) nr. 980/2005 și a Deciziei 2005/924/CE a Comisiei, JO L 20, 24.1.2008.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012026/13
to the Commission**

Monica Luisa Macovei (PPE)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Russia's trade restrictions on EU Member States and on Eastern Partnership countries

Commenting on the Russian Federation's customs restrictions on Lithuanian dairy products, in force since 12 September 2013, Commissioner for Trade Karel de Gucht declared on 8 October 2013 that he would place this subject on the agenda of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Council for Trade in Goods which was due to take place on 18 October 2013.

Furthermore, on 10 October 2013, the Russian Federation also threatened restrictions on imports of tulips and hard cheese from the Netherlands, as a result of a disagreement with the Dutch Government.

These restrictions come after similar customs restrictions were imposed by the Russian Federation on Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova. These sanctions were condemned as unacceptable pressure by both Parliament, through its resolution on pressure exerted by Russia on Eastern Partnership countries (in the context of the upcoming Eastern Partnership Summit in Vilnius), and the Commission. On 11 September 2013, Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy Štefan Füle criticised 'the artificial trade obstacles, such as import bans of dubious WTO compatibility, and cumbersome customs procedures'.

At present, the Russian Federation only upholds the ban on wines from the Republic of Moldova. Talks are taking place between the health services of both countries, but the delays in lifting the restrictions are causing significant losses to producers and exporters from the Republic of Moldova.

1. Did Commissioner de Gucht raise the issue of the pressures exerted by the Russian Federation on the Eastern Partnership countries at the WTO Council for Trade in Goods of 18 October 2013?
2. What measures is the Commission taking to prevent the Russian Federation from using trade bans to put political pressure on Member States and partner countries?

Answer given by Mr De Gucht on behalf of the Commission

(13 December 2013)

1. The Commission did raise the customs restrictions for Lithuanian carriers, welcoming their termination on 10 October 2013, and the ban on Lithuanian products in place since 7 October 2013 during the meeting of the World Trade Organisation Council for Trade in Goods of 18 October 2013. The Commission used this opportunity to express its concerns with regard to politically motivated measures by Russia.

2. The EU has made clear that pressure on Eastern Partnership countries linked to the possible signing of the Association Agreements (AA), including the establishment of Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas (DCFTA) is unacceptable, and that the EU will support and stand by its partners.

The Commission believes that the best response in the face of external pressure is the signature and swift provisional application of the AA/ DCFTAs with the Eastern Partners who choose to do so. Furthermore, the EU is examining all support possibilities, including trade measures. One example of support trade measures that could be undertaken by the EU would be the liberalisation of wine imports from Moldova. This could be achieved through a modification of the existing Council Regulation (EC) No 55/2008⁽¹⁾ on EU autonomous trade preferences (ATP Regulation) for Moldova. On 25 September 2013 the Commission made a legislative proposal in this regard which is being considered by Parliament and the Council.

In addition, the Commission will continue to work closely with the Member States to address the remaining barriers which affect EU exports to Russia.

⁽¹⁾ Council Regulation (EC) No 55/2008 of 21 January 2008 introducing autonomous trade preferences for the Republic of Moldova and amending Regulation (EC) No 980/2005 and Commission Decision 2005/924/EC, OJ L 20, 24.1.2008.

(Verzjoni Maltija)

Mistoqsija ghal twegiba bil-miktub E-012028/13

lill-Kummissjoni

Claudette Abela Baldacchino (S&D)

(22 ta' Ottubru 2013)

Suġġett: Tluq bikri mill-iskola

Skont ir-rapport ippublikat wara l-konferenza dwar "It-tnaqqis tat-Tluq Bikri mill-iskola: Politiki effiċjenti u effettivi fl-Ewropa" li saret fi Brussell fl-1 u t-2 ta' Marzu 2012, it-tluq bikri mill-iskola (ESL) jaffettwa żaġġuħ minn kull seba' u hu wiehed mill-isfidi edukattivi ewlenin fl-Ewropa: it-tnaqqis tar-rati tal-ESL hu objettiv kondiviz tal-Istati Membri.

Iktar minn 14 % taż-żgħażaġħ kollha fl-UE li għandhom bejn it-18 u l-24 sena jispicċaw l-edukazzjoni u t-taħriġ tagħhom biss b'livell baxx ta' edukazzjoni sekondarja jew inqas; it-tnaqqis tar-rati tal-ESL hu għalhekk wiehed mill-miri ewlenin tal-istrateġija Ewropa 2020. Jekk din il-mira tintlaħaq, ir-rata medja tal-ESL fl-UE tkun tniżżlet taht l-10 % sal-2020.

Ir-Rakkomandazzjoni tal-Kunsill tat-28 ta' Ġunju 2011 dwar linji politiċi sabiex jitnaqqas it-tluq bikri mill-iskolli⁽¹⁾ tiddefinixxi linja ta' referenza komuni għall-iżvilupp tal-politika. F'din ir-rakkomandazzjoni l-Istati Membri qablu li sal-2012 għandhom jimplementaw strateġiji komprensivi biex jikkumbattu l-ESL.

1. Tista' l-Kummissjoni ttiprovdi l-konkluzjonijiet tagħha mill-monitoraġġ ta' din il-kwistjoni, kif ukoll tiddekrivi fid-dettall dawn l-istrateġiji komprensivi?
2. Il-Kummissjoni taħseb li din il-mira ser tintlaħaq u li għalhekk il-medja tar-rati tal-ESL fl-UE ser tinżel taht l-10 % sal-2020?
3. Il-Kummissjoni x'inizjattivi qed tippjana għas-snin li ġejjin sabiex tilhaq din il-mira?
4. Il-Kummissjoni taqbel li, minkejja l-miżuri li diġa' ttiehdu mill-Istati Membri, il-progress fit-tnaqqis tar-rati tal-ESL għadu miexi bil-mod wisq?
5. Il-Kummissjoni tista' telenka l-Istati Membri li għadhom lura?

Twegiba mogħtija mis-Sinjura Vassiliou fisem il-Kummissjoni

(12 ta' Diċembru 2013)

1. Il-Kummissjoni tissorvelja u tirrapporta dwar l-iżviluppi fit-tluq bikri mill-iskola (ESL) fl-UE, inkluż permezz tal-Istharrig Annwali dwar it-Tkabbir u fl-istrateġija għall-Edukazzjoni u t-Taħriġ tal-2020. Mill-ewwel semestru Ewropew, rakkomandazzjonijiet speċifiċi għall-pajjiżi (CSRs) marbuta ma' mira ewlenija tat-tluq bikri mill-iskola ġew ipprezentati lil: erba' Stati Membri fl-2011 (AT, DK, ES u MT), sitta fl-2012 (DK, ES, HU, IT, LV u MT) u sitta fl-2013 (DK, ES, HU, IT, MT u RO). Ir-rakkomandazzjonijiet qed ikollhom impatt: l-Istati Membri riċevituri kollha tal-2011 u l-2012 teġbu r-rati tagħhom (b' mod partikolari ES, li tjebet b'3.5 % mill-2010).

Minkejja li l-biċċa l-kbira tal-Istati Membri hađu miżuri biex jikkumbattu l-ESL, f'it huma daww li implimentaw strateġiji komprensivi. NL u IE ilhom is-snin li implimentawhom; AT għamlet dan milux, filwaqt li BG u MT se jimplementawhom issa.

2. Skont l-"Education and Training Monitor 2013" ir-rata medja tal-ESL fl-UE kienet 12.7 % fl-2012. Dan ifisser li niżlet b'0.7 % mill-2011. Dan it-titjib primarjament jirrifletti progress fxi pajjiżi akbar, iżda jahbi x-xejriet negattivi f'oħrajn.
3. Il-Kummissjoni mexxiet diskussjonijiet dwar l-ESL permezz tal-metodu miftuħ ta' koordinazzjoni (OMC). Grupp ta' Hidma Tematiku, li jirrappreżenta kważi l-Istati Membri kollha mwaqqaf f'Diċembru 2011, organizza taħriġ u evalwazzjonijiet bejn il-pari dwar il-politiki u daqt se jippreżenta rakkomandazzjonijiet. Huwa ppjanat li hidma bħal din tkompli.
4. Il-biċċa l-kbira tal-Istati Membri għamli progress. Madanakollu għad fadal lakuni kbar. L-Istati Membri jeħtieġ li jsostnu l-isforzi tagħhom biex tintlaħaq il-mira.

⁽¹⁾ ĠUC 191, 1.7.2011, p.1.

5. ES, MT u PT għandhom l-ogħla rati ta' ESL, iżda għamlu progress mill-2011. Fost il-pajjiżi b'rati 'il fuq mill-10 % IT, DE, FR u CY għamlu ftit tal-progress jew xejn, filwaqt li r-rati ta' BE, BG u RO qegħdin jżiedu.
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(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012028/13
to the Commission**

Claudette Abela Baldacchino (S&D)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Early school leaving

According to the report published following the conference on 'Reducing Early School Leaving: Efficient and effective policies in Europe' held in Brussels on 1 and 2 March 2012, early school leaving (ESL) affects one in seven young people and is one of the main educational challenges in Europe: reducing ESL rates is a shared objective of the Member States.

More than 14% of all 18-to-24-year-olds in the EU finish their education and training with only lower secondary education or less; to reduce ESL rates is therefore one of the headline targets in the Europe 2020 strategy. If the target is met, the average ESL rate in the EU will have been cut to under 10% by 2020.

The Council recommendation of 28 June 2011 on policies to reduce early school leaving ⁽¹⁾ defines a common baseline for policy development. The Member States agreed in this recommendation to put in place comprehensive strategies to combat ESL by the end of 2012.

1. Can the Commission provide the conclusions from its monitoring of the matter, as well as details of these comprehensive strategies?
2. Does the Commission think that the target will be met and that the average ESL rate in the EU will therefore have fallen below 10% by 2020?
3. What initiatives does the Commission plan for the coming years in order to achieve this target?
4. Does the Commission agree that, despite the numerous measures already taken by Member States, progress in reducing ESL rates remains too slow?
5. Can the Commission list the Member States which are lagging behind?

Answer given by Ms Vassiliou on behalf of the Commission

(12 December 2013)

1. The Commission monitors and reports on developments in early school leaving (ESL) including through the Annual Growth Survey and within the Education and Training 2020 strategy. Since the first European Semester, Country Specific Recommendations (CSRs) linked to the ESL headline target have been delivered to: 4 Member States (MS) in 2011 (AT, DK, ES and MT), 6 in 2012 (DK, ES, HU, IT, LV and MT) and 6 in 2013 (DK, ES, HU, IT, MT and RO). The recommendations are having an impact: all 2011 and 2012 recipient MS have improved their rates (notably ES, which improved by 3.5% from 2010).

Despite most MS having taken measures to tackle ESL, few have implemented comprehensive strategies. The NL and IE have had them for some years; AT recently, while BG and MT are about to do so.

2. According to the 'Education and Training Monitor 2013', the EU average ESL rate was 12.7% in 2012; down 0.7% from 2011. This improvement mainly reflects progress in some larger countries, but hides negative trends in others.
3. The Commission has led reflections on ESL within the open method of coordination (OMC). A Thematic Working Group, representing nearly all MS set up in December 2011, has organised peer learning and peer reviews on policies and will soon deliver recommendations. Such work is set to continue.
4. A majority of MS have made progress, but there are still wide disparities. MS will need to sustain their efforts if the target is to be reached.
5. ES, MT, and PT have the highest rates of ESL, but have made progress since 2011. Among countries with rates above 10%, IT, DE, FR and CY show little or no progress, while in BE, BG and RO rates have been increasing.

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 191, 1.7.2011, p. 1.

(Hrvatska verzija)

Pitanje za pisani odgovor E-012029/13
upućeno Komisiji
Sandra Petrović Jakovina (S&D)
(22. listopada 2013.)

Predmet: Problemi sigurnosti u pružanju usluga na području zračne plovidbe

Zakonodavstvo o jedinstvenom europskom nebu regulira zajedničke zahtjeve za pružanje usluga na području zračne plovidbe, kao i certificiranje i određivanje pružatelja usluga u zračnoj plovidbi. Certifikatima se utvrđuju prava i obveze pružatelja usluga u zračnoj plovidbi s posebnim naglaskom na sigurnost. Od nacionalnih nadzornih tijela očekuje se da nadziru sukladnost sa zajedničkim zahtjevima i uvjetima vezanima uz certifikate.

Otkrije li nacionalno nadzorno tijelo da nositelj certifikata više ne zadovoljava zahtjeve i uvjete, mora poduzeti primjerene mjere istovremeno osiguravajući neprekinuto pružanje usluge. Kako bi se osiguralo ispravno funkcioniranje sustava certificiranja, države članice u okviru svojih godišnjih izvješća Komisiji trebale bi pružiti sve relevantne informacije o odstupanjima koje je odobrilo njihovo nacionalno nadzorno tijelo. Pružatelj usluga u zračnoj plovidbi dužan je dokazati usklađenost za razdoblje valjanosti certifikata i za sve pružene usluge. Prije izdavanja certifikata, nacionalno nadzorno tijelo trebalo bi ispitati primjerenost pružatelja usluga te svake godine ocijeniti trajnu sukladnost pružatelja usluga u zračnoj plovidbi.

Budući da pružatelj usluga u zračnoj plovidbi mora dokazati sukladnost, tj. pokazati usklađenost i trajnu usklađenost, opravdano je ukazati da u većoj ili manjoj mjeri postoji mogućnost nedostataka, a time se mogu dovesti u pitanje aspekti sigurnosti putnika u pružanju usluga u zračnoj plovidbi. Godišnja izvješća Eurocontrola o provedbi zakonodavstva o jedinstvenom europskom nebu jasno pokazuju da neke države članice u pitanjima koje regulira zakonodavstvo EU-a nisu potpuno usklađene.

Na primjer, što se tiče trajne usklađenosti, neka nacionalna nadzorna tijela nisu provjerila sve svoje certificirane pružatelje usluga u zračnoj plovidbi kao što je određeno zajedničkim zahtjevima. Preporuka je bila da bi se, s obzirom na broj zahtjeva te na veliki broj pružatelja usluga koje je potrebno nadgledati, trebalo promicati uporabu savjetodavnog materijala i dobre prakse kako bi se osigurala kako bi se osigurala primjerena provjera i potvrda sukladnosti istovremeno posvećujući pozornost ograničenim sredstvima nacionalnih nadzornih tijela. Nadalje, što se tiče određivanja, dvije države članice odredile su pružatelje usluga u zračnoj plovidbi za koje se čini da nemaju certifikat. Na području ocjenjivanja uspješnosti zaključeno je da kapacitet i učinkovitost zračnog prostora sveukupno dostavljenih podataka upućuju na prilično nisku razinu provedbe. Što se tiče nadzora usklađenosti, ukupni prijavljeni broj provedenih inspekcija, istraživanja i sigurnosnih revizija u svrhu takvog nadzora bio je vrlo nizak.

S obzirom na to da smo nedavno bili suočeni s ozbiljnim sigurnosnim pitanjima u vezi s pružanjem usluga u zračnom prometu, što je u konačnici ugrozilo ljudske živote, može li Komisija izjaviti koje mjere namjerava poduzeti u cilju konačnog ukidanja takvih štetnih praksi država članica i/ili pružatelja usluga u zračnoj plovidbi, imajući na umu da uvođenje sankcija državama članicama zbog neprovedbe ili nepravilne provedbe zakonodavstva nije konačno rješenje tog problema?

Odgovor g. Kallasa u ime Komisije
(10. prosinca 2013.)

Uredbe o Jedinstvenom europskom nebu (SES) razlikuju dva odvojena subjekta: Pružatelje usluga zračne plovidbe koji pružaju kontrolu nad zračnim prijevozom i ostale usluge te Nacionalna nadzorna tijela koja nadgledaju pružatelje usluga. Kako je navedeno u pitanju, nedavne revizije ukazale su na nedostatke u načinu na koji tijela vlasti ovjeravaju i nadgledaju pružatelje usluga te kako osiguravaju provedbu propisa koji se odnose na Jedinstveno europsko nebo (SES). Nadalje provedba zadanih ciljeva i dalje je nezadovoljavajuća u smislu ambicija i korektivnih mjera. To se događa naime zbog nedostatka neovisnosti i sredstava ili stručnosti u tijelima vlasti.

Prijedlog za SES2+ zahtijevao bi organizacijsku podjelu između dvaju subjekata kako bi se omogućila istinska neovisnost. Neovisnost će biti potrebna i u pitanjima povezanim s proračunom te prilikom imenovanja osoblja. U konačnici, prijedlog bi utvrdio, na razini EU-a, mrežu nacionalnih tijela pod pokroviteljstvom Europske agencije za sigurnost zračnog prometa kako bi se omogućila razmjena najbolje prakse, osposobljavanje i udruživanje stručnjaka.

Pomoću tih mjera Komisija očekuje da će tijela vlasti dobiti motivaciju i potrebna sredstva te ujedno izbjeći trenutačne sukobe interesa u radu. Velika razlika u radu stoga će se smanjiti jer će se pružatelje usluga zračne plovidbe nadgledati i nadzirati prema istim standardima kao što se već radi sa zračnim prijevoznicima.

(English version)

Question for written answer E-012029/13
to the Commission
Sandra Petrović Jakovina (S&D)
(22 October 2013)

Subject: Safety- related issues in air navigation service provision

The SES (Single European Sky) legislation regulates common requirements for the provision of air navigation services, as well as the certification and designation of air navigation service providers (ANSPs). Certificates set out the rights and obligations of ANSPs with particular regard to safety. National supervisory authorities (NSAs) are expected to monitor compliance with the common requirements and with the conditions attached to the certificates.

If an NSA finds that the holder of a certificate no longer satisfies the requirements and conditions, it must take appropriate measures while ensuring continuity of service. In order to ensure the proper functioning of the certification scheme, Member States should provide the Commission with all relevant information on the derogations granted by their NSA in the context of their annual reports. The onus of proving compliance should lie with the ANSPs, for the period of validity of the certificate and for all the services covered. The NSA should examine the suitability of a provider prior to issuing a certificate and should assess the ongoing compliance of the ANSPs it has certified on a yearly basis.

As the onus of proving compliance, i.e. the demonstration of compliance and the ongoing compliance, is on the ANSPs, there are reasonable grounds to assert the possibility of gaps, to a lesser or greater extent, and this may lead to the questioning of the passenger safety-related aspects of air navigation service provision. Eurocontrol's annual reports on the implementation of SES legislation clearly indicate that there has not been full compliance by some Member States on matters regulated by the EU legislation.

For instance, as to ongoing compliance, some NSAs have not checked all their certified ANSPs as set forth in the common requirements. The recommendation was that, considering the number of requirements and the large numbers of providers to be overseen, advisory material and good practices should be promoted in order to ensure that compliance is adequately verified/confirmed while giving due consideration to the limited resources of the NSAs. Secondly, as to the designation, two Member States have designated air traffic services providers (ATSPs) which appear not to have been certified. As to performance assessment, it was concluded that regarding airspace capacity and efficiency, the overall reported information indicates a rather low level of implementation. Regarding compliance monitoring, the overall reported level of implementation of inspections, surveys and safety audits for the purpose of such monitoring was very low.

Considering that we have recently been faced with serious safety issues relative to air traffic provision, ultimately jeopardising people's lives, can the Commission state what measures it envisages with a view to ultimately putting an end to such adverse practices by Member States and/or ATSPs, while bearing in mind that the imposition of sanctions on Member States for non-implementation or improper implementation does not ultimately resolve this issue?

Answer given by Mr Kallas on behalf of the Commission
(10 December 2013)

The Single European Sky (SES) regulations distinguish between two separate entities; the Air Navigation Service Providers providing air traffic control and other services and the National Supervisory Authorities overseeing the service providers. As the question notes, recent audits have revealed shortcomings in the way the authorities certify and oversee the service providers and how they ensure the implementation of the SES rules. Furthermore the implementation of performance targets is still suboptimal in terms of ambition and corrective measures. This is namely due to lack of independence and resources or expertise in the authorities.

The proposal for SES2+ would require an organisational separation between the two, to ensure true independence. Independence will also be required in budgetary matters and staff nominations. Finally the proposal would establish an EU-level network of national authorities under the auspices of the European Aviation Safety Agency to ensure exchanges of best practises, training and pooling of experts.

With these measures Commission expects that the authorities will gain the motivation and resources needed and also avoid the current conflicts of interest in their work. Thus a major performance gap will be closed as the air navigation service providers would be overseen and monitored to the same standards as the airlines already are.

(Versione italiana)

**Interrogazione con richiesta di risposta scritta E-012030/13
alla Commissione**

Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris (PPE)

(22 ottobre 2013)

Oggetto: Terra dei fuochi, emergenza sversamenti

Tra Napoli e Caserta, nella cosiddetta «Terra dei fuochi», il fenomeno degli sversamenti illegali dura da più di 30 anni. Il litorale domitio, l'agro aversano-atellano, l'agro acerrano-nolano e vesuviano e la città di Napoli costituiscono un vasto territorio colpito dal fenomeno dei roghi e dall'abbandono incontrollato di rifiuti solidi urbani, di rifiuti speciali, pericolosi e non, con conseguenze gravi per la salute, per l'ambiente e per la sicurezza. Questo disastro ambientale si inserisce nel più ampio quadro delineato dal primo studio dell'Istituto superiore di sanità, per il quale tutta l'area che va da Giugliano a Villaricca, fino al litorale domitio, è inquinata da discariche abusive, dall'interramento di rifiuti illegali, successivamente incendiati, in gran parte provenienti dalle imprese del Nord, con la complicità della camorra, che hanno contaminato la falda acquifera e 2.000 ettari di terreni agricoli circostanti, inquinati da fanghi tossici, metalli pesanti e sostanze chimiche. Secondo l'Istituto superiore di sanità, in Campania, nell'area ex Resit di Giugliano, l'inquinamento è senza rimedio: 20 chilometri quadrati «morti», 220 ettari di veleni senza possibilità di bonifica. Nella stessa area sono triplicate le malattie in meno di venti anni con una forte incidenza di tumori, malformazioni fetoneonatali ed epigenetica. Il ministero dell'ambiente italiano per risolvere il problema e per evitare sversamenti futuri di materiali tossici sta per istituire una task-force investigativa e giudiziaria contro le infiltrazioni nelle operazioni.

Alla luce di ciò, può la Commissione chiarire quanto segue:

1. è informata sulla perenne emergenza che riguarda la «Terra dei fuochi» in Campania?
2. Ci sono specifici programmi dell'Unione europea che finanziano la bonifica di terreni che hanno subito inquinamenti prolungati nel corso di decenni e, eventualmente, intende utilizzarli?
3. Intende fare parte della task-force del ministero dell'ambiente italiano che punta a individuare adeguati e tempestivi interventi per far fronte al disastro ambientale in Campania?
4. Alla base del lavoro che sarà svolto dalla task-force intende prevedere specifici programmi per finanziare azioni di bonifica per i territori ad alto tasso di inquinamento?

**Interrogazione con richiesta di risposta scritta E-012131/13
alla Commissione**

Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris (PPE), Cristiana Muscardini (ECR), Alfredo Antoniozzi (PPE), Aldo Patriciello (PPE), Clemente Mastella (PPE), Crescenzo Rivellini (PPE) e Salvatore Tatarella (PPE)

(23 ottobre 2013)

Oggetto: Terra dei fuochi, emergenza sversamenti

Tra Napoli e Caserta, nella cosiddetta «Terra dei fuochi», il fenomeno degli sversamenti illegali dura da più di 30 anni. Dal litorale domitio, all'agro aversano-atellano, all'agro acerrano-nolano e vesuviano e la città di Napoli, un intero territorio colpito dal fenomeno dei roghi e dall'abbandono incontrollato di rifiuti solidi urbani, di rifiuti speciali, pericolosi e non, con conseguenze gravi per la salute, per l'ambiente e per la sicurezza. Questo disastro ambientale si inserisce nel più ampio quadro delineato dal primo studio dell'Istituto superiore di sanità, per il quale tutta l'area che va da Giugliano a Villaricca, fino al litorale domitio, è inquinata da discariche abusive, dall'interramento di rifiuti illegali, successivamente incendiati, in gran parte provenienti dalle imprese del Nord, con la complicità della camorra, che hanno contaminato la falda acquifera e 2 000 ettari di terreni agricoli circostanti, inquinati da fanghi tossici, metalli pesanti e sostanze chimiche. Secondo l'Istituto superiore di sanità, in Campania, nell'area ex Resit di Giugliano, l'inquinamento è senza rimedio: 20 chilometri quadrati «morti», 220 ettari di veleni senza possibilità di bonifica. Nella stessa area sono triplicate le malattie in meno di venti anni con una forte incidenza di tumori, malformazioni fetoneonatali e modificazioni epigenetiche. Il ministero dell'ambiente italiano, per risolvere il problema e per evitare sversamenti futuri di materiali tossici, sta per istituire una task-force investigativa e giudiziaria contro le infiltrazioni nelle operazioni.

Alla luce di ciò, può la Commissione chiarire:

1. se è informata sulla perenne emergenza che riguarda la «Terra dei fuochi» in Campania;

2. se ci sono specifici programmi dell'Unione europea che finanziano la bonifica di terreni che hanno subito inquinamenti prolungati nel corso di decenni e se intende utilizzarli;
3. se intende fare parte della task-force del ministero dell'ambiente italiano che punta a individuare adeguati e tempestivi interventi per far fronte al disastro ambientale in Campania;
4. se alla base del lavoro che sarà svolto dalla task-force intenda prevedere specifici programmi per finanziare azioni di bonifica per i territori ad alto tasso di inquinamento?

Interrogazione con richiesta di risposta scritta E-012244/13

alla Commissione

Oreste Rossi (PPE)

(28 ottobre 2013)

Oggetto: Terra dei fuochi: roghi e discariche illegali

La «Terra dei fuochi» è un'area tra le province di Napoli e Caserta così denominata in quanto sconvolta da numerosi roghi di rifiuti, dove si segnala l'esistenza di molteplici discariche illegali che vengono sistematicamente incendiate. Occorre notare che esiste un vero e proprio business dei rifiuti in mano ad alcune famiglie mafiose, per cui si può parlare di «ecomafia». I numeri sono molto elevati: negli ultimi 5 anni in quest'area sono stati registrati 205 arresti per traffici e smaltimenti illegali di rifiuti, pari a circa un terzo del totale su base nazionale. Dal primo gennaio 2012 al 31 agosto 2013 i roghi di rifiuti, materiali plastici, scarti di lavorazione del pellame e stracci sono stati 6.034 di cui 3.049 in provincia di Napoli e 2.085 in quella di Caserta.

Stante che tale situazione provoca notevoli danni ambientali e paesaggistici (dispersione di sostanze inquinanti nel suolo, nell'aria e nelle falde idriche) con evidenti conseguenze anche per la salute umana, in quanto si registra un incremento di tumori proprio in quei comuni che presentano il maggior numero di rifiuti (Acerra, Aversa, Bacoli, Caivano, Castelvoturno, Giugliano in Campania, Marcanise e Villaricca) e si sta discutendo sulla necessità di istituire il reato di «ecocidio», che configuri la distruzione ambientale come un vero e proprio crimine;

può la Commissione far sapere:

- se è a conoscenza di questo problema che grava sulla Terra dei fuochi;
- con quali mezzi intende aumentare la lotta al traffico illecito dei rifiuti;
- se è a conoscenza dell'iniziativa dei cittadini europei volta a richiedere l'istituzione del reato di «ecocidio» e intende supportarla da un punto di vista legislativo?

Risposta congiunta di Janez Potočnik a nome della Commissione

(18 dicembre 2013)

Nell'ambito della procedura di infrazione 2007/2195 ⁽¹⁾ la Commissione ha sollevato la questione dello smaltimento illegale di rifiuti pericolosi, in particolare per quanto riguarda l'incenerimento selvaggio dei rifiuti nella cosiddetta «terra dei fuochi» nelle province di Napoli e Caserta. Nella procedura di infrazione esorta le autorità italiane a prendere le misure necessarie. Secondo le informazioni fornite alla Commissione, nel novembre 2012, il governo italiano ha nominato un commissario straordinario incaricato di risolvere la questione al fine di prevenire e contrastare lo smaltimento illegale di rifiuti.

Inoltre, nel quadro della procedura di infrazione 2003/2077 relativa alle discariche illegali in tutta Italia, nell'aprile 2013 la Commissione ha adito la Corte dell'Unione Europea per la seconda volta, visto che l'Italia non ha ancora bonificato le discariche interessate, tra cui molte in Campania. La causa è ancora pendente dinanzi alla Corte.

Il programma 2007-2013 per la Regione Campania, cofinanziato dal Fondo per lo sviluppo rurale, prevede anche misure volte alla bonifica di siti contaminati secondo il principio del «chi inquina paga», a condizione che i progetti siano coperti dal piano bonifiche approvato dalla regione.

Per quanto riguarda la questione più ampia del traffico illegale di rifiuti in Europa, nel luglio 2013 la Commissione ha adottato una proposta per rafforzare i controlli sulle spedizioni di rifiuti, attraverso una modifica del regolamento (CE) n. 1013/2006 ⁽²⁾. La Commissione controlla l'attuazione di detto regolamento e ogni tre anni pubblica una relazione.

⁽¹⁾ Relativa alla gestione dei rifiuti nella Regione Campania.

⁽²⁾ Regolamento (CE) n. 1013/2006 relativo alle spedizioni di rifiuti (GU L 190 del 12.7.2006).

La Commissione è a conoscenza dell'iniziativa dei cittadini «Fermiamo l'ecocidio in Europa: un'iniziativa dei cittadini per dare diritti alla terra». Il termine per la raccolta delle necessarie dichiarazioni di sostegno di 1 milione di euro è il 21.1.2014. In seguito la Commissione deciderà l'intervento appropriato.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012030/13
to the Commission**

Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris (PPE)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Dumping emergency in the 'land of fires'

Illegal dumping has been going on for over 30 years in the 'land of fires', between Naples and Caserta. The Domitian coast, the countryside around Aversa and Orta di Atella, the countryside around Acerra and Nola, the area around Mount Vesuvius and the city of Naples form a vast area that is blighted by bonfires and the uncontrolled dumping of solid urban waste and hazardous and non-hazardous special waste, with serious consequences for health, the environment and safety. This environmental disaster fits into the wider framework of the first study by the Italian National Institute of Health, according to which the entire area that stretches from Giugliano to Villaricca, up to the Domitian coast, is polluted by illegal landfills and the burying of illegal waste, which is then burned. The waste mainly comes from businesses in northern Italy, in collusion with the Camorra, and has contaminated the aquifer and 2 000 hectares of surrounding farmland, polluted by toxic sludge, heavy metals and chemicals. According to the Italian National Institute of Health, the pollution in the area of the former Resit di Giugliano landfill in Campania, is irreparable: 20 square kilometres are 'dead' and 220 hectares are poisoned beyond decontamination. In the same area, the incidence of disease has tripled in under 20 years, with high rates of cancer, congenital deformities and genetic mutations. In order to resolve the problem and prevent toxic waste being dumped in the future, the Italian Ministry of the Environment is about to set up a task force to investigate and prosecute infiltration of waste disposal operations.

1. Is the Commission aware of the continuing disaster involving the 'land of fires' in Campania?
2. Are there any specific EU programmes to finance the decontamination of land that has been polluted over decades and, if so, will the Commission use them?
3. Will the Commission participate in the Italian Ministry of the Environment's task force, which aims to identify suitable and timely actions to tackle the environmental disaster in Campania?
4. Based on the work that the task force will carry out, will the Commission establish specific programmes to finance actions to clean up heavily polluted land?

**Question for written answer E-012131/13
to the Commission**

Sergio Paolo Francesco Silvestris (PPE), Cristiana Muscardini (ECR), Alfredo Antoniozzi (PPE), Aldo Patriciello (PPE), Clemente Mastella (PPE), Crescenzo Rivellini (PPE) and Salvatore Tatarella (PPE)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: 'Terra dei fuochi' dumping emergency

Between Naples and Caserta, in the so-called 'Terra dei fuochi' ('land of fire'), illegal dumping has been taking place for over 30 years. An entire area, including the Domitian coast, the Aversano-Atellano countryside, the Acerrano-Nolano and Mount Vesuvius area and the city of Naples, has been affected by the uncontrolled disposal of solid urban waste and special waste, which is often hazardous, with serious consequences for the health of local people, the environment and safety. This environmental disaster is part of a broader scenario that was first outlined in a study by the Italian Institute of Health, which found that the entire area from Giugliano to Villaricca, right up to the Domitian coast, is polluted as a result of the fly tipping and landfill of illegal waste that is subsequently burnt. The majority of this waste arrives from businesses in the North of Italy with the help of the Camorra and has led to the contamination of the groundwater and 2 000 hectares of surrounding agricultural land with toxic sludge, heavy metals and chemicals. According to the Institute of Health, in Campania, at the ex-Resit di Giugliano site, the pollution is irreversible — there are 20 km² of 'dead' land and 220 hectares of polluted land that can never be restored. In this area, the incidence of illness has tripled in less than 20 years, with a high rate of tumours, birth defects and epigenetic changes. The Italian Ministry for the Environment is about to set up an investigative judicial task force to combat these illegal operations with a view to solving the problem and preventing future toxic waste dumping.

1. In the light of the above, can the Commission say whether it is aware of the ongoing emergency in the 'Terra dei fuochi' area of the Campania Region?
2. Can it say whether there is any EU funding available to clean up the land that has been subject to prolonged pollution for decades?

3. Does the Commission intend to participate in the Italian Ministry for the Environment's task force, which aims to identify suitable and timely steps to be taken to combat the environmental disaster in Campania?
4. On the basis of the task force's findings, does it intend to provide specific funding to clean up the areas with high rates of pollution?

**Question for written answer E-012244/13
to the Commission
Oreste Rossi (PPE)
(28 October 2013)**

Subject: Land of fires: illegal bonfires and landfills

The 'land of fires' is an area between the provinces of Naples and Caserta, so named because of the many rubbish bonfires that blight the landscape, where there are reported to be many illegal landfills, which are systematically burned. A genuine waste business does exist, but it is controlled by a number of Mafia families, an 'ecomafia'. The figures involved are staggering: in the last five years in this area, 205 arrests have been made for illegal trafficking and disposal of waste, accounting for around a third of the national total. From 1 January 2012 to 31 August 2013, there were 6 034 bonfires burning waste, plastics, leather and textile processing waste, of which 3 049 were in the province in Naples and 2 085 in Caserta.

This phenomenon is seriously damaging the environment and the landscape (pollutants leaking into the ground, air and aquifers) with obvious consequences also for human health, as there has been an increase in the incidence of cancer in those municipalities with the most waste (Acerra, Aversa, Bacoli, Caivano, Castel Volturno, Giugliano in Campania, Marcianise and Villaricca). Discussions are also under way as to whether the offence of 'ecocide' needs to be introduced, making environmental destruction a real criminal offence.

— Is the Commission aware of this problem affecting the land of fires?

— How does it plan to step up the fight against illegal trafficking of waste?

— Is the Commission aware of the European citizens' initiative calling for 'ecocide' to be made an offence, and will it give it legislative support?

**Joint answer given by Mr Potočník on behalf of the Commission
(18 December 2013)**

Within infringement procedure 2007/2195 ⁽¹⁾, the Commission has raised the issue of illegal disposal of hazardous waste, in particular as regards the uncontrolled burning of waste in the so-called 'Land of Fires' in the Naples and Caserta provinces, urging Italian authorities to take the necessary measures. According to the information provided to the Commission, in November 2012 the Italian Government appointed a special commissioner to deal with the issue, in order to prevent and remedy the illegal disposal of waste.

Furthermore, within infringement procedure 2003/2077 concerning illegal landfills in the whole of Italy, in April 2013 the Commission applied to the EU Court for the second time, because Italy has not yet cleaned up all the landfills covered by the case, including many sites in Campania. The case is still pending before the Court.

The 2007-2013 programme for Campania, co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund, includes measures aimed at cleaning up contaminated sites according to the 'polluter payer' principle, provided that the projects are covered by the 'Piano bonifiche' approved by the region.

As for the more general issue of illegal traffic of waste, in July 2013 the Commission adopted a proposal to strengthen inspections on waste shipments through an amendment to Regulation 1013/2006 ⁽²⁾. The Commission monitors the implementation of this regulation and publishes a report every three years.

The Commission is aware of the citizen's initiative 'End Ecocide in Europe: A Citizens' Initiative to give the Earth Rights'. The deadline to collect the requisite 1 million statements of support is 21.1.2014, following which the Commission will decide what action is appropriate.

⁽¹⁾ Concerning waste management in Campania.

⁽²⁾ Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 on shipments of waste (OJ L 190, 12.7.2006).

(Nederlandse versie)

**Vraag met verzoek om schriftelijk antwoord E-012031/13
aan de Commissie**

Laurence J. A. J. Stassen (NI)

(22 oktober 2013)

Betreeft: Füle: „vaart” achter toetredingsonderhandelingen

Momenteel zijn er vijf kandidaat-lidstaten (Turkije, voormalige Joegoslavische Republiek Macedonië, Montenegro, Servië en Albanië) en twee potentiële kandidaat-lidstaten (Kosovo en Bosnië en Herzegovina). De heer Füle, eurocommissaris voor Uitbreiding, heeft gezegd „vaart” achter de toetredingsonderhandelingen te willen zetten ⁽¹⁾. Met Turkije wil hij de besprekingen „intensiveren”. IJsland heeft onlangs zijn kandidatuur voor de EU ingetrokken.

1. Realiseert de Commissie zich dat landen als Roemenië en Bulgarije tot de EU zijn toegetreden hoewel zij destijds volstrekt niet aan de daarvoor geldende criteria voldeden en daaraan vandaag de dag nog altijd niet voldoen, zoals blijkt uit de onvolmaaktheid van de rechtsstaat, de democratie en de economie én de welig tierende corruptie? Wat heeft de Commissie van de premature toetreding van deze landen geleerd, en hoe uit zich dat?
2. Hoe beoordeelt de Commissie het dat IJsland zijn kandidatuur voor de EU onlangs heeft ingetrokken? Deelt de Commissie de mening dat het buitengewoon verstandig is van de welvarende IJslanders om de EU de rug toe te keren en zich niet, na toetreding, als melkkoe voor de armere Europese landen te laten misbruiken? Zo nee, hoe interpreteert de Commissie de intrekking van de IJslandse EU-kandidatuur dan wel?
3. Deelt de Commissie de mening dat de toetredingsonderhandelingen met Turkije allesbehalve „geïntensiveerd” moeten worden — enerzijds vanwege de gebreken inzake rechtsstaat en democratie, anderzijds vanwege de ernstige inperking van de vrijheid van meningsuiting, de stelselmatige onderdrukking van minderheden en de massale gevangenneming van critici? Vanwaar komt de naïviteit van de Commissie om deze gebreken voor lief te nemen, en vanwaar komt de arrogantie van de Commissie om uitspraken van de Turkse premier Erdoğan „dat het land helemaal niet tot de EU wil toetreden” ⁽²⁾ in de wind te slaan, om vervolgens — alsof er niets aan de hand is — de toetredingsonderhandelingen doodleuk te „intensiveren”? Deelt de Commissie de mening dat het voor de EU, maar ook voor Turkije, verstandiger is om de onderhandelingen definitief te beëindigen?

Antwoord van de heer Füle namens de Commissie

(19 december 2013)

De Commissie verwijst het geachte Parlementslid naar haar verslag over de uitbreidingsstrategie van de EU voor 2013-2014. Hierin wordt melding gemaakt van een belangrijke les uit vorige uitbreidingen, namelijk het belang om de fundamentele kwesties het eerst aan te pakken: de rechtsstaat, de versterking van het economisch bestuur, de versterking van de democratische instellingen, de grondrechten en goede nabuurschapsbetrekkingen ⁽³⁾.

IJsland is nog steeds een kandidaat-lidstaat. De nieuwe regering van IJsland heeft besloten de toetredingsonderhandelingen met de EU op te schorten. IJsland blijft een belangrijke partner van de EU in de Europese Economische Ruimte en in het Schengengebied.

De Commissie blijft Turkije en zijn burgers ondersteunen in hun legitieme verwachtingen ten aanzien van verdere hervormingen om de vrijheid van meningsuiting, de persvrijheid, de vrijheid van vergadering en de bescherming van minderheden te versterken.

De Commissie verwijst naar haar uitbreidingspakket van 2013 waarin zij beklemtoont dat de aanhoudende tekortkomingen wijzen op het belang voor de EU om het overleg met Turkije op het gebied van de grondrechten te intensiveren. Vooruitgang in de toetredingsonderhandelingen en vorderingen met de politieke hervormingen in Turkije gaan hand in hand.

⁽¹⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/fule/headlines/news/2013/10/20131016_2_en.htm

⁽²⁾ http://diepresse.com/home/politik/eu/1339046/Tuerkei_Dann-sagen-wir-der-EU-auf-Wiedersehen?from=home.meinung.gastkommentar.sc.p1

⁽³⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key_documents/2013/package/strategy_paper_2013_nl.pdf

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012031/13
to the Commission**

Laurence J.A.J. Stassen (NI)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Commissioner Füle: 'momentum' behind accession negotiations

There are currently five candidate countries for EU membership (Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania) and two potential candidate states (Kosovo and Bosnia and Herzegovina). Mr Füle, European Commissioner for Expansion, has said that he wants to put some momentum behind the accession negotiations ⁽¹⁾. He also wants to 'intensify' discussions with Turkey. Iceland, meanwhile, recently withdrew its candidacy for EU membership.

1. Does the Commission realise that countries such as Romania and Bulgaria acceded to the EU despite the fact that they did not fully comply with the applicable criteria for doing so at the time, and indeed still do not do so, as is evident from the imperfections in the rule of law, democracy and the economy in these countries, as well as the rampant corruption? What has the Commission learnt from the premature accession of these countries, and how does this manifest itself?

2. What is the Commission's assessment of the fact that Iceland recently withdrew its candidacy for EU membership? Does the Commission share the view that it is extremely sagacious of the prosperous Icelanders to turn their backs on the EU and not allow themselves to be abused as milch cows for poorer European nations after accession? If not, how does the Commission interpret Iceland's withdrawal of its candidature?

3. Does the Commission share the view that, in view of the shortcomings in Turkey in relation to the rule of law and democracy and given the serious curtailment of the freedom of expression, the systematic oppression of minorities and the mass imprisonment of Government critics, the accession negotiations with Turkey need to be anything but 'intensified'? Why is the Commission so naïve as to tolerate these shortcomings, and what is the reason for its arrogance in turning a blind eye to the statements by the Turkish prime minister, Mr Erdoğan, that his country 'absolutely does not want to join the EU' ⁽²⁾, in order to then calmly 'intensify' the accession negotiations as if nothing had happened? Does the Commission share the view that it would make more sense for the EU, as well as for Turkey, for a line to be drawn under the negotiations once and for all?

Answer given by Mr Füle on behalf of the Commission

(19 December 2013)

The Commission refers the Honourable Member to its EU Enlargement Strategy paper for 2013-2014, which mentions that a key lesson learned from previous enlargements is the importance of addressing the fundamentals first: rule of law, economic governance, strengthening democratic institutions, fundamental rights and good neighbourly relations ⁽³⁾.

Iceland is still a candidate country. The new Government of Iceland decided to put EU accession negotiations on hold. Iceland remains an important partner for the EU, in the European Economic Area and in the Schengen Area.

The Commission continues to support Turkey and its citizens in fulfilling their legitimate expectations of further reform to strengthen freedom of expression, freedom of the media, freedom of assembly and protection of minorities.

The Commission refers to its 2013 Enlargement package, in which it underlines that persisting shortcomings underline the importance for the EU to enhance its engagement with Turkey on fundamental rights. Progress in the accession negotiations and progress in the political reforms in Turkey are two sides of the same coin.

⁽¹⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/fule/headlines/news/2013/10/20131016_2_en.htm

⁽²⁾ http://diepresse.com/home/politik/eu/1339046/Tuerkei_Dann-sagen-wir-der-EU-auf-Wiedersehen?from=home.meinung.gastkommentar.sc.p1

⁽³⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key_documents/2013/package/strategy_paper_2013_en.pdf

(Ελληνική έκδοση)

Ερώτηση με αίτημα γραπτής απάντησης P-012032/13
προς την Επιτροπή
Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou (PPE)
(22 Οκτωβρίου 2013)

Θέμα: Υποεκπροσώπηση των γυναικών στον τομέα της επιστήμης

Ακόμα και σήμερα, οι γυναίκες υποεκπροσωπούνται σε πολλούς τομείς, όπως στους τομείς της επιστήμης και της τεχνολογίας στην Ευρώπη. Η έκθεση «Mutationnelles 2013», που δημοσιεύθηκε από την Global Contact εξ' ονόματος της Orange, τον Σεπτέμβριο του 2013 για να συμπέσει με το φεστιβάλ Επιστημών της Γαλλίας, εξετάζει το ρόλο των γυναικών στην επιστήμη και την τεχνολογία στη Γαλλία, τονίζοντας το γεγονός ότι οι γυναίκες εξακολουθούν να αποτελούν μειονότητα στον επιστημονικό τομέα⁽¹⁾. Στην ΕΕ οι γυναίκες αποτελούν μόνο το 33% των φοιτητών που εγγράφονται σε σχολές θετικών επιστημών και μόνο το 27% των εγγεγραμμένων σε πολυτεχνικές σχολές, σύμφωνα με την «Έρευνα για τα φύλα και την καινοτομία», μια μελέτη που δημοσιεύθηκε από την Επιτροπή το 2012⁽²⁾.

Η ΕΕ έχει αναλάβει πολλές πρωτοβουλίες και έχει δρομολογήσει πολλά προγράμματα με στόχο την αύξηση της συμμετοχής των γυναικών στην καινοτομία και την επιστήμη. Ωστόσο, οι πρωτοβουλίες αυτές δεν έχουν αποφέρει τα αναμενόμενα αποτελέσματα.

Ως εκ τούτου, κρίνεται σκόπιμο να ερωτηθεί η Επιτροπή:

1. Ποιοι πιστεύει ότι είναι οι λόγοι που το πρόβλημα αυτό δεν έχει αντιμετωπιστεί αποτελεσματικά; Έχουν ανατεθεί συγκεκριμένες μελέτες σχετικά με το θέμα;
2. Πώς σχεδιάζει να αντιμετωπίσει τα στερεότυπα των φύλων στην επιστήμη και να ενθαρρύνει τα κορίτσια να εξετάσουν το ενδεχόμενο μιας σταδιοδρομίας σε τομείς όπως η επιστήμη, η τεχνολογία και η μηχανική;
3. Υπάρχει τρόπος αξιολόγησης των αρνητικών επιπτώσεων της υποεκπροσώπησης των γυναικών στην οικονομία της ΕΕ;
4. Ποιες είναι οι επιδόσεις των διαφόρων κρατών μελών στον τομέα αυτό, και ποια συμπεράσματα μπορούν να εξαχθούν;

Απάντηση της κ. Geoghegan-Quinn εξ' ονόματος της Επιτροπής
(13 Νοεμβρίου 2013)

1. Για περισσότερο από δέκα χρόνια, η Επιτροπή αναλαμβάνει δραστηριότητες οι οποίες έχουν συμβάλει στην ενίσχυση του ρόλου και του αριθμού των γυναικών στις επιστήμες, καθώς και στην προώθηση της ισότητας των φύλων στην έρευνα και την καινοτομία (στατιστικές και δείκτες από το «She figures» («Στοιχεία για τις γυναίκες»), δραστηριότητες καθοδήγησης/δικτύωσης στο πλαίσιο του 5ου ΠΠ⁽³⁾ και του 6ου ΠΠ⁽⁴⁾, «θεσμικές αλλαγές» στο πλαίσιο του 7ου ΠΠ⁽⁵⁾). Ωστόσο, δεδομένου ότι το πρόβλημα είναι διαρθρωτικό, πρέπει να αναληφθούν πρωτοβουλίες που θα απευθύνονται σε μια κρίσιμη μάζα πανεπιστημίων και ερευνητικών ιδρυμάτων και θα αποσκοπούν στην άρση των φραγμών που εμποδίζουν τη συμμετοχή και την πρόοδο των γυναικών σε επιστημονικές σταδιοδρομίες. Επιπλέον, υπάρχει ανάγκη για μια πιο συνεκτική προσέγγιση όσον αφορά τις θεσμικές αλλαγές σε ολόκληρη την ΕΕ και για συγκεκριμένες πολιτικές σε επίπεδο κρατών μελών της ΕΕ.

2. Η επικοινωνιακή εκστρατεία «Η επιστήμη είναι γένους θηλυκού!» ξεκίνησε το 2012. Απευθύνεται σε κορίτσια ηλικίας 13-18 ετών με σκοπό να τα ενθαρρύνει να ακολουθήσουν επιστημονικούς κλάδους. Έχει αναπτυχθεί μια επικαιροποιημένη στρατηγική, η οποία προβλέπει διαδικτυακές δραστηριότητες και διαρθρωμένη συνεργασία με τα χρηματοδοτούμενα έργα του σχεδίου δράσης «Επιστήμη και κοινωνία», καθώς και πιο έντονη αλληλεπίδραση με άλλες πρωτοβουλίες της ΕΕ.

3. Ναι, μέσω οικονομετρικής ανάλυσης των εκπαιδευτικών δαπανών έως την τριτοβάθμια εκπαίδευση. Επίσης, θα μπορούσε να χρησιμοποιηθεί ένα μοντέλο μερικής ισορροπίας ώστε να εκτιμηθούν τα αποτελέσματα που προκύπτουν από τη μη βέλτιστη χρήση του ανθρώπινου ερευνητικού κεφαλαίου.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.global-contact.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Mutationnelles-20131.pdf>

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/document_library/pdf_06/she-figures-2012_en.pdf

⁽³⁾ 5ο ΠΠ: Πέμπτο πρόγραμμα πλαίσιο δραστηριοτήτων έρευνας, τεχνολογικής ανάπτυξης και επίδειξης (1998-2002).

⁽⁴⁾ 6ο ΠΠ: Έκτο πρόγραμμα πλαίσιο δραστηριοτήτων έρευνας, τεχνολογικής ανάπτυξης και επίδειξης (2002-2006).

⁽⁵⁾ 7ο ΠΠ: Έβδομο πρόγραμμα πλαίσιο δραστηριοτήτων έρευνας, τεχνολογικής ανάπτυξης και επίδειξης (2007-2013).

4. Σύμφωνα με την πρώτη έκθεση προόδου της Επιτροπής για τον ΕΧΕ ⁽⁹⁾, ελάχιστα κράτη μέλη φαίνεται να διαθέτουν στο νομικό τους πλαίσιο για την έρευνα διατάξεις σχετικά με την ισότητα των φύλων, ενώ δεν δίνεται ιδιαίτερη προσοχή στην ενσωμάτωση της διάστασης του φύλου σε εθνικά ερευνητικά προγράμματα. Η έκθεση συνιστά στα κράτη μέλη να εφαρμόσουν ολοκληρωμένες στρατηγικές διαρθρωτικών αλλαγών για την εξάλειψη των διαφορών μεταξύ των φύλων στο πλαίσιο των ερευνητικών ιδρυμάτων και προγραμμάτων.

⁽⁹⁾ COM(2013)637 της 20.9.2013.

(English version)

**Question for written answer P-012032/13
to the Commission**

Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou (PPE)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Women's underrepresentation in science

Even today, women are underrepresented in many fields, as can be observed in the fields of science and technology in Europe. The 'Mutationnelles 2013' report, published by Global Contact on behalf of Orange in September 2013 to coincide with France's Festival of Science, looks at the role of women in science and technology in France, highlighting the fact that women continue to be a minority in the scientific sector ⁽¹⁾. In the EU women account for only 33% of students enrolled in science faculties and only 27% of those enrolled in engineering schools, according to the 'Gender Research and Innovation' study published by the Commission in 2012 ⁽²⁾.

The EU has taken multiple initiatives and launched many projects with a view to increasing women's participation in innovation and science. However, these initiatives have not yielded the expected results.

Accordingly, it seems appropriate to ask the Commission:

1. What does it believe to be the reasons that this problem has not been addressed effectively? Have any specific studies been commissioned on the topic?
2. How does it plan to tackle gender stereotypes in science and encourage girls to consider careers in sectors such as science, technology and engineering?
3. Is there a way to assess the negative impact of women's underrepresentation on the EU economy?
4. How well are the different Member States performing in this area, and what conclusions can be drawn?

Answer given by Ms Geoghegan-Quinn on behalf of the Commission

(13 November 2013)

1. For over 10 years, the Commission has engaged in activities that have helped to increase the role and number of women in science and to promote gender in research and innovation ('She Figures' statistics and indicators; mentoring/networking activities in FP5 ⁽³⁾ and FP6 ⁽⁴⁾; 'institutional changes' in FP7 ⁽⁵⁾). However, as the problem is structural, a critical mass of universities and research institutions needs to be targeted with initiatives aimed at removing barriers that prevent female participation and progression in scientific careers. Moreover, there is a need for a more consistent approach with respect to institutional changes across the EU and for specific policies at EU Member State level.
2. The 'Science it's a girl thing!' communication campaign was launched in 2012. It targets girls aged 13-18 and encourages them to study science. An updated strategy has been developed, which foresees online activities and a structured collaboration with 'Science in Society' funded projects as well as a stronger interaction with other EU initiatives.
3. Yes, through econometric analysis of education costs up to tertiary level. Also, a partial equilibrium model could be used to estimate the effects of sub-optimal use of human research capital.
4. According to the first ERA progress report of the Commission ⁽⁶⁾, few Member States appear to have provisions on gender equality in their research legal framework and little attention is paid to integrating the gender dimension into national research programmes. The report recommends that Member States implement comprehensive strategies of structural change to overcome gaps in research institutions and programmes.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.global-contact.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Mutationnelles-20131.pdf>

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/research/science-society/document_library/pdf_06/she-figures-2012_en.pdf

⁽³⁾ FP5 : Fifth Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities (1998-2002).

⁽⁴⁾ FP6 : Sixth Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities (2002-2006).

⁽⁵⁾ FP7 : Seventh Framework Programme for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration Activities (2007-2013).

⁽⁶⁾ COM(2013) 637, 20.9.2013.

(Magyar változat)

Írásbeli választ igénylő kérdés P-012033/13
a Bizottság számára
Bánki Erik (PPE)
(2013. október 22.)

Tárgy: A krumovgradi alternatív bányászati projekt

Napjainkban számos aranybányászati projekt vár engedélyeztetésre, többek között Romániában, Szlovákiában és Bulgáriában. Aggodalomra ad okot, hogy a beruházók a gazdasági szempontból legkedvezőbb, cianidos lúgozás technológiát alkalmazzák az esetleges környezetbarátabb megoldások helyett, noha célszerű lenne alternatív megoldásokat választani. Erre nagyon jó példa, hogy a bulgáriai Krumovgrad melletti bányaberuházásban olyan vezető technológiák kerülnek majd alkalmazásra, mint például az integrált bányahulladék-rendszer.

1. Az imént leírtakkal kapcsolatban kérdezem a Bizottságot, hogy tudomással van-e arról, hogy a Krumovgrad melletti aranybányában pontosan milyen technológia kerül alkalmazásra?
2. Kérem a Bizottságot, hogy listázza a lehetséges alternatívákat és járjon utána a legújabb kutatási eredményeknek e téren.
3. Ezek fényében gondolja-e a Bizottság, hogy kezdeményezi végre a cianidos bányászat uniós betiltását?

Janez Potočnik válasza a Bizottság nevében
(2013. november 20.)

Ami a Krumovgrad melletti aranybányát illeti, a bányatársaság az arany kivonására hagyományos megbontási, aprítási és flotációs eljárást szándékozik alkalmazni.

Az olyan alternatív technológiákat illetően, mint például más lúgozók vagy egyéb (fizikai) módszerek alkalmazása az aranyhoz az ércből való leválasztására megjegyzendő, hogy az alternatívák mindegyikének vannak olyan sajátos aspektusai és jellegzetességei, amelyek alapján jelenleg nem tekinthetők megfelelő alternatíváknak a cianid valamennyi bányászati műveletben való, ipari méretű használatának kiváltására.

A cianidos bányászati technológiák EU-ban történő betiltásának esetleges bevezetésével kapcsolatban a Bizottság a tisztelt képviselő figyelmébe ajánlja a Tabajdi Csaba képviselő úr által beterjesztett E-3589/2010. számú írásbeli kérdésre adott választát.

(English version)

**Question for written answer P-012033/13
to the Commission**

Erik Bánki (PPE)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Alternative mining project at Krumovgrad

At present, many goldmining projects are awaiting authorisation, *inter alia* in Romania, Slovakia and Bulgaria. There is cause for concern in the fact that the investors use the financially cheapest technology — cyanide leaching — rather than any environmentally more benign methods, although it would be advisable to opt for alternative solutions. A very good example is the mining project near Krumovgrad in Bulgaria, in which such cutting-edge technologies are to be used as the integrated mining-waste system.

1. In view of the above, does the Commission know exactly what technology is to be used in the goldmine near Krumovgrad?
2. Can the Commission list the possible alternatives and ascertain the latest research results in this field?
3. In this light, will the Commission finally propose that mining with cyanide be banned by the European Union?

Answer given by Mr Potočník on behalf of the Commission

(20 November 2013)

As regards the technique to be applied in the Krumovgrad gold mine the mining company intends to employ conventional crushing, grinding and flotation processing for gold extraction.

As regards alternative techniques such as the use of other lixivants and other (physical) methods to separate gold from the ore, each of the alternatives has a number of intrinsic aspects and characteristics which mean that they are currently not considered suitable alternatives for cyanide use in all gold mining operations on an industrial scale.

As regards the potential introduction of a ban of the use of cyanide mining technologies in the EU the Commission would refer the Honourable Members to its answer to Written Question P-3589/2010 from Mr Tabajdi.

(Version française)

Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012034/13

à la Commission

Gaston Franco (PPE)

(22 octobre 2013)

Objet: Consommation d'énergie des smartphones

Dans son rapport intitulé «Internet commence avec le charbon» publié en août 2013, Mark Mills, physicien et PDG de Digital Power Group, affirme que le smartphone, utilisé au maximum de ses capacités, consommerait plus d'électricité qu'un réfrigérateur, soit 361 kWh, contre 322 kWh, du fait de l'utilisation accrue du wifi, de la 3G, du téléchargement et du partage des données.

Alors que l'objectif de l'efficacité énergétique à l'horizon 2020 est de 20 %, selon la directive en date du 14 novembre 2012 sur l'efficacité énergétique, la consommation électrique des smartphones constitue un véritable enjeu économique et environnemental pour l'Union européenne.

1. De quelle manière la Commission peut-elle aider l'Union à atteindre son objectif de 20 % d'efficacité énergétique à l'horizon 2020 face à la multiplication des nouveaux usages spécifiques de l'électricité symbolisée par l'utilisation des smartphones, sachant que les seuls progrès réalisés à ce jour concernent la baisse de consommation recherchée par les constructeurs pour augmenter l'autonomie des appareils?
2. Plus précisément, la Commission envisage-t-elle d'instaurer, au niveau européen, un label d'efficacité énergétique pour faire face au caractère énergivore des technologies de l'information et de la communication (TIC), tout en préservant la compétitivité des opérateurs et du pouvoir d'achat des ménages?
3. Comment la Commission souhaite-t-elle sensibiliser les citoyens européens aux économies d'énergie liées à l'utilisation de leur smartphone?

Réponse donnée par M. Oettinger au nom de la Commission

(11 décembre 2013)

Afin de dresser la liste des produits qui devraient faire l'objet d'une évaluation au titre du cadre en matière d'écoconception et d'étiquetage énergétique, la Commission européenne a élaboré des plans de travail fondés sur des études scientifiques. Lors de la préparation des plans de travail pour 2009-2011 et 2012-2014, les téléphones portables se sont révélés être un groupe de produits présentant un potentiel d'économies d'énergie relativement faible⁽¹⁾. En conséquence, la Commission ne prévoit pas, à ce stade, d'instaurer un étiquetage énergétique pour les téléphones portables. Dans le même temps, d'autres produits du secteur des TIC font l'objet de mesures; on peut citer à titre d'exemples les règlements en matière d'écoconception relatifs aux ordinateurs/serveurs et à la «veille en réseau», ainsi que les accords volontaires sur les décodeurs numériques complexes et le matériel de traitement d'image. Le programme d'efficacité énergétique «EnergyStar» pour le matériel de bureau et «l'écolabel» (qui comportent, par exemple, des critères applicables aux ordinateurs portables) qui ont une incidence importante dans le cadre des marchés publics viennent compléter la législation de l'Union relative aux produits⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.ecodesign-wp2.eu/documents.htm>

⁽²⁾ <http://www.eu-energystar.org/en/index.html>; <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/eu-ecolabel-for-consumers.html>

(English version)

Question for written answer E-012034/13
to the Commission
Gaston Franco (PPE)
(22 October 2013)

Subject: Energy consumption of smartphones

In his report entitled 'The Cloud Begins with Coal', published in August 2013, Mark Mills, physicist and CEO of Digital Power Group, states that the smartphone, used to its maximum capacity, would consume more electricity than a refrigerator, in other words 361 kWh as opposed to 322 kWh, due to the increased use of Wi-Fi, 3G, downloads and data sharing.

Whilst the energy efficiency target for 2020 is 20%, according to the directive on energy efficiency of 14 November 2012, the electric energy consumption of smartphones poses a real economic and environmental challenge for the European Union.

1. How can the Commission help the EU achieve its 20% energy efficiency target by 2020 when faced with the increase in specific new uses for electricity symbolised by the use of smartphones, given that the only progress made to date relates to the reduced consumption sought by manufacturers in order to increase the autonomy of the devices?
2. More specifically, does the Commission plan to establish an energy efficiency label at EU level to tackle the energy-intensive nature of information and communication technology (ICT), whilst preserving the competitiveness of operators and the purchasing power of households?
3. How does the Commission intend to raise European public awareness regarding energy saving associated with the use of their smartphone?

Answer given by Mr Oettinger on behalf of the Commission
(11 December 2013)

To identify products that should be assessed under the Ecodesign and the Energy Labelling Framework, the European Commission established Working plans based on scientific studies. In the preparation for the 2009-2011 and 2012-2014 Working plans, mobile phones were found to be a product group with relatively low energy saving potential ⁽¹⁾. Therefore, the Commission does not plan to establish an energy label for mobile phones at this stage. At the same time other products of the ICT-sector are being addressed (examples are the Ecodesign regulations on computers/computer servers and on 'networked standby', the voluntary agreements on complex set top boxes and imaging equipment). The energy efficiency programme 'EnergyStar' for office equipment and the 'Ecolabel' (e.g. with criteria for portable computers) which have an important impact through public procurement complement EU product legislation ⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.ecodesign-wp2.eu/documents.htm>

⁽²⁾ <http://www.eu-energystar.org/en/index.html>; <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/eu-ecolabel-for-consumers.html>

(Version française)

**Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012035/13
à la Commission**

Jean-Luc Mélenchon (GUE/NGL)

(22 octobre 2013)

Objet: Le Conseil est-il aux ordres de Mme Merkel?

Le lundi 14 octobre, le Conseil des ministres de l'environnement a reporté l'obligation de réduction des émissions de CO₂ des voitures. L'accord conclu avec le Parlement européen, en juin dernier, fixait un objectif de réduction à 95 g de CO₂/km d'ici à 2020. L'entrée en vigueur du plafond de 95 g/km pourrait être repoussée à 2024, voire carrément remise en cause.

Comment la Commission compte-t-elle remplir les objectifs de réduction des émissions de CO₂ de 40 % en 2030 si cette mesure est repoussée éternellement?

Ce report a été obtenu après l'insistance de M^{me} Merkel auprès du Conseil arguant que «certains de nos constructeurs, qui produisent majoritairement des grosses voitures, même s'il s'agit des plus efficaces et des plus innovantes dans leur segment, seraient très pénalisés par le projet européen actuel» et que «des emplois en Allemagne seraient menacés». On apprend, dans le même temps, que la CDU, formation de Mme Merkel, a reçu 690 000 euros de dons, une semaine avant la réunion du Conseil, de la part de BMW, constructeur visé par la réduction des émissions de CO₂.

Pourquoi la voix de M^{me} Merkel a-t-elle été prépondérante au sein du Conseil, au détriment de l'intérêt général humain des Européens?

Ce report a été acquis grâce au revirement de dernière minute de trois grands pays qui soutenaient la limitation des émissions de CO₂, à savoir la France, le Royaume-Uni et la Pologne.

Peut-on connaître les raisons de ce revirement?

Réponse donnée par M^{me} Hedegaard au nom de la Commission

(3 décembre 2013)

Lors de la réunion du Conseil (environnement) d'octobre, la Commission a constaté avec inquiétude que le Conseil avait décidé de ne pas approuver le résultat du trilogue de juin 2013, qui constituait un compromis équilibré. À la suite de cette réunion, la Commission facilite à présent les discussions entre les colégislateurs afin de trouver dans les meilleurs délais une solution qui permettrait de parvenir à un accord en première lecture.

La Commission n'a pas à se prononcer sur la manière dont chaque État membre, qui prend ses décisions en toute souveraineté, est parvenu à sa position concernant la législation proposée.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012035/13
to the Commission**

Jean-Luc Mélenchon (GUE/NGL)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Is the Council taking orders from Mrs Merkel?

On Monday 14 October 2013, the Council of Environment Ministers postponed the requirement for CO₂ emissions from cars to be reduced. The agreement concluded with Parliament, in June of this year, set a target of reducing CO₂/km to 95 g by 2020. The entry into force of the 95 g/km threshold could be pushed back to 2024, evidently calling it into question.

How does the Commission intend to reach the target of reducing CO₂ emissions by 40% by 2030 if this measure is continually postponed?

The postponement was obtained following Mrs Merkel's insistence to the Council, arguing that some German manufacturers, which predominantly produced large cars, even if they were the most efficient and innovative of their kind, would be heavily penalised by the current European plan and that jobs in Germany would be threatened. At the same time, we have also learnt that, one week prior to the meeting, the CDU, Mrs Merkel's party, received EUR 690 000 in donations from BMW, a manufacturer that is targeted by the reduction in CO₂ emissions.

Why has Mrs Merkel's voice dominated within the Council, to the detriment of the general interest of the European people?

This postponement was obtained thanks to the last-minute change of heart of three major countries that were in support of limiting CO₂ emissions, namely France, the United Kingdom and Poland.

May we know the reasons for this change of heart?

Answer given by Ms Hedegaard on behalf of the Commission

(3 December 2013)

At the meeting of the Council (Environment) in October, the Commission noted with concern the Council's decision not to endorse the trilogue outcome of June 2013, which represented a balanced compromise. Further to that meeting, the Commission is now facilitating discussions between the co-legislators in order to find a solution as soon as possible, which would allow an agreement in first reading.

The Commission does not have a view on how individual Member States, which are responsible for their sovereign decisions, arrived at their position on the proposed legislation.

(Magyar változat)

Írásbeli választ igénylő kérdés E-012036/13
a Bizottság számára
Bánki Erik (PPE)
(2013. október 22.)

Tárgy: Fiatalok elhelyezkedése az idegenforgalmi ágazatban

A fiatalok munkanélkülisége az Európai Unió egyik legégetőbb problémájává vált. Az unió országában jelenleg öt és félmillió 25 év alatti fiatal nem tud elhelyezkedni, tehát a probléma a korosztálynak csaknem negyedét érinti.

Európa egyik közös és fontos célja, hogy továbbra is a világ leglátogatottabb úti célja maradjon. Az Európai Unióban a munkahelyek 12%-a származik közvetetten a turizmusból. Nem szabad figyelmen kívül hagyni, hogy a fiatalok foglalkoztatása ebben az ágazatban a legmagasabb. A turizmus területén igen sokféle munkalehetőség létezik, ezért mind az alacsonyabb, mind a magasabb végzettséggel rendelkezők alkalmazhatók.

A fent említettek alapján kérdezem a Bizottságot, hogy eddig milyen eszközöket alkalmazott annak érdekében, hogy megkönnyítse a fiatalok elhelyezkedését az idegenforgalmi ágazatban? Illetve milyen intézkedéseket kíván tenni a közeljövőben e téren?

Andor László válasza a Bizottság nevében
(2013. december 10.)

Az ifjúsági garancia létrehozásáról szóló tanácsi ajánlás célja annak biztosítása, hogy a tagállamok 25 éves korig minden fiatal számára színvonalas munkahelyet kínáljanak, vagy pedig lehetővé tegyék számukra, hogy további oktatásban, tanulószerveződéses gyakorlati képzésben vagy gyakornoki képzésben vegyenek részt. Az ilyen típusú kezdeményezések finanszírozását a fiatalok munkanélküliségével leginkább sújtott régiókban a 2014-től 2020-ig tartó időszakra szóló ifjúsági foglalkoztatási kezdeményezés segíti, támogatva ezáltal az ifjúsági garancia valósággá válását. Az ajánlás nem emel ki egyetlen ágazatot sem a többi közül; ha a tagállamok egy-egy ágazatnak külön figyelmet kívánnak szentelni, azt maguknak kell elhatározniuk.

Az Európai Foglalkoztatási Mobilitás Portálja ⁽¹⁾ (EURES) segít összehozni a munkaerő-piaci kínálatot és keresletet. Az idegenforgalommal kapcsolatban az EURES nemsokára új funkcióval bővül: lehetőség lesz ágazatilag meghatározott készségek alapján is keresni az adatbázisban. Ez az újdonság először a vendéglátóipar területén lesz elérhető, majd később a kulturális ágazatban, a kalandturizmus területén, valamint a tengerhajózásban és a tengerrel összefüggő más területeken, illetőleg a különleges szükségletekkel rendelkező turisták kiszolgálásával kapcsolatos készségek esetében.

Tekintettel arra, hogy a nyelvi készségek központi szerepet játszanak az idegenforgalomban, az Erasmus+ elnevezésű új finanszírozási program 2014-től kiemelten foglalkozik majd a fiatalok tanulási, képzési és önkéntes munkavállalási célú mobilitásának támogatásával. Az Erasmus+ ⁽²⁾ emellett – az idegenforgalomban és más területeken – lehetőséget ad az ágazatilag megalapozott projektek finanszírozására is.

Az úgynevezett ágazati szakképzés-fejlesztési szövetségek támogatni fogják a szakképző intézmények és az ugyanazon szakmában ⁽³⁾ működő szervezetek közötti együttműködéseket olyan közös szakképzési programok és módszerek kidolgozása érdekében, amelyek a munkaerőpiacon könnyen hasznosítható készségekkel ruházzák fel a képzés résztvevőit. A Leonardo da Vinci program máris mintegy 600 projektet finanszírozott az idegenforgalomban ⁽⁴⁾.

⁽¹⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/eures/>

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/education/erasmus-plus/index_en.htm

⁽³⁾ A NACE-kódok szerint.

⁽⁴⁾ <http://www.adam-europe.eu/adam/project/extendedsearch.htm>

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012036/13
to the Commission
Erik Bánki (PPE)
(22 October 2013)**

Subject: Jobs for young people in tourism

Youth unemployment has become one of the EU's most pressing problems. 5.5 million people under the age of 25 in the EU are currently unable to find work — almost a quarter of all people in that age group.

One of Europe's principle common aims is to remain the world's most-visited tourist destination. 12% of jobs in the EU result indirectly from tourism. We should not forget that youth employment is highest in this sector. There are so many employment opportunities in the field of tourism that there is a place for everyone, regardless of their level of qualifications.

What action has the Commission taken so far to facilitate young people finding work in tourism? What does it intend to do in the near future in this area?

**Answer given by Mr Andor on behalf of the Commission
(10 December 2013)**

The Council Recommendation on establishing a Youth Guarantee seeks to ensure that Member States offer all young people up to the age of 25 years old a quality job, continued education, an apprenticeship or a traineeship within four months of leaving formal education or becoming unemployed. The Youth Employment Initiative 2014-2020, will help finance the provision of this initiatives in the region's worst affected by youth unemployment, thus supporting the implementation of the Youth guarantee. However the recommendation does not target any sector as such. It is up to the Member State to target any specific sector if they want to.

Furthermore, the European Job Mobility Portal ⁽¹⁾ (EURES) is helping match the supply of jobs with the demand. Regarding the tourism sector, EURES will be refined to allow for searches to be based on skills as defined by industry. This innovative approach will concern first jobs in the hospitality sector and subsequently in the cultural, adventure, marine and maritime sectors, as well as skills to meet the needs of tourists with special needs

As language skills are crucial for employment in the tourism sector, the new funding programme Erasmus+, effective from 2014, will prominently support mobility of young people for learning, training or volunteering purposes. Erasmus+ ⁽²⁾ will also provide opportunities to fund sector-based projects (including tourism).

The Sector Skills Alliances will support partnerships between vocational institutions and organisations from the same trade ⁽³⁾, to design and deliver joint vocational training programmes and methods which provide vocational learners with labour-market relevant skills. Already Leonardo da Vinci has supported about 600 projects in the tourism sector ⁽⁴⁾.

⁽¹⁾ <https://ec.europa.eu/eures/>

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/education/erasmus-plus/index_en.htm

⁽³⁾ According to NACE codes.

⁽⁴⁾ <http://www.adam-europe.eu/adam/project/extendedsearch.htm>

(Wersja polska)

**Pytanie wymagające odpowiedzi pisemnej E-012037/13
do Komisji**

Filip Kaczmarek (PPE)

(22 października 2013 r.)

Przedmiot: Opłaty za reklamację pobierane przez przewoźników lotniczych

Większość firm lotniczych oferuje bezpłatne składanie reklamacji za pomocą formularzy online. Jednak nie wszyscy obywatele Unii korzystają lub mają dostęp do internetu. Osoby chcące skorzystać ze złożenia reklamacji telefonicznie są zmuszone do uiszczenia dodatkowych opłat telefonicznych, droższych niż u standardowych operatorów telekomunikacyjnych. Często opłata taka przekracza 1 euro za minutę połączenia.

Czy Komisja zamierza podjąć jakieś działania, aby linie lotnicze nie obciążały pasażerów postępowaniem reklamacyjnym, szczególnie w sytuacji, gdy to po stronie przewoźnika jest wina co do niedotrzymania warunków umowy?

Odpowiedź udzielona przez komisarz Viviane Reding w imieniu Komisji

(8 stycznia 2014 r.)

Artykuł 21 dyrektywy 2011/83/UE w sprawie praw konsumentów⁽¹⁾ stanowi, że nie można pobierać od konsumentów wyższej opłaty niż opłata podstawowa, w przypadku gdy sprzedawca usług używa linii telefonicznej w celu kontaktu z nim w sprawie zawartej umowy. Przepis ten nie ma jednak zastosowania do usług transportu pasażerskiego.

Niemniej jednak w konkretnych przypadkach danej sprawy niedostarczenie konsumentom odpowiedniej (tj. kompletnej i prawdziwej) informacji dotyczącej kosztów i warunków obsługi klienta może stanowić nieuczciwą praktykę w rozumieniu dyrektywy 2005/29/WE⁽²⁾ w sprawie nieuczciwych praktyk handlowych. Dyrektywa obejmuje działania wprowadzające w błąd i zaniechania. Na mocy tej dyrektywy, informacje, które są potrzebne konsumentowi w celu dokonania świadomego wyboru, w tym ustalenia dotyczące rozpatrywania reklamacji, muszą być wyraźnie przedstawione.

Państwa członkowskie są odpowiedzialne za ustanowienie odpowiednich i skutecznych środków zwalczania nieuczciwych praktyk handlowych. Jednakże doświadczenie wskazało potrzebę poprawy koordynacji działań w zakresie egzekwowania prawa, w szczególności w przypadku, gdy ten sam problem pojawia się w różnych państwach członkowskich. Zgodnie z komisyjnym Europejskim programem na rzecz konsumentów⁽³⁾, sprawozdanie w sprawie stosowania dyrektywy 2005/29/WE⁽⁴⁾ przyjęte w dniu 14 marca 2013 r. określa główne obszary działań, w tym sektor podróży i transportu, w których egzekwowanie prawa powinno być bardziej rygorystyczne. W przypadku naruszenia o charakterze transgranicznym tych przepisów organy egzekwowania prawa mogą współpracować w ramach sieci współpracy w zakresie ochrony konsumenta utworzonej w 2006 r.⁽⁵⁾ Konsumentowi, z drugiej strony, mogą wnioskować o pomoc do Sieci Europejskich Centrów Konsumentkich (ECC-Net), współfinansowanej przez Komisję, w przypadku skarg dotyczących podmiotu mającego siedzibę w innym państwie członkowskim.

⁽¹⁾ Dz.U. L 304 z 22.11.2011, s. 64.

⁽²⁾ Dz.U. L 149 z 11.6.2005.

⁽³⁾ COM(2012) 225.

⁽⁴⁾ COM(2013) 139.

⁽⁵⁾ Rozporządzenie (WE) nr 2006/2004 z dnia 27 października 2004 r., Dz.U. L 364 z 9.12.2004, s. 1.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012037/13
to the Commission
Filip Kaczmarek (PPE)
(22 October 2013)**

Subject: Complaint fees charged by air carriers

Most airlines have a free-of-charge online complaints procedure which involves filling in a form. However, not everyone in the EU uses or has access to the Internet. Anyone wanting to lodge a complaint by telephone must pay an additional phone charge which is higher than that levied by normal telecoms operators and is often in excess of EUR 1 per minute.

Does the Commission intend to take any action to ensure that airlines do not charge passengers making complaints, particularly where the carrier has failed to comply with contractual terms?

**Answer given by Mrs Reding on behalf of the Commission
(8 January 2014)**

Article 21 of Directive 2011/83/EU on Consumer Rights ⁽¹⁾ provides that consumers cannot be charged more than the basic rate, where the trader operates a telephone line for the purpose of contacting him in relation to the contract concluded. This provision, however, does not apply to passenger transport services.

Nevertheless, based on the circumstances of the individual case, failure to provide the consumer with appropriate (i.e. complete and truthful) information relating to the costs and modalities of customer assistance may constitute an unfair practice under the directive 2005/29/EC ⁽²⁾ on Unfair Commercial Practices. The directive covers misleading actions and omissions. Under the directive, information, which the consumer needs in order to make an informed choice, including the arrangements for complaints handling policy, must be displayed clearly.

Member States are responsible for setting up adequate and effective means to combat unfair commercial practices. However experience has shown a need for improving coordinated enforcement, in particular where the same problem arises in different Member States. In line with the Commission's Consumer Agenda ⁽³⁾, the report on the application of Directive 2005/29/EC ⁽⁴⁾ adopted on 14 March 2013 identifies key areas for actions, including the travel and transport sectors, where enforcement should be stepped up. For cross-border infringements of this legislation enforcement authorities may cooperate within the Consumer Protection Cooperation Network established in 2006 ⁽⁵⁾. Consumers, on the other hand, may seek assistance from the European Consumer Centre Network (ECC-net), co-funded by the Commission, for their complaints with a business operator established in another Member State.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 304/64, 22.11.2011.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 149, 11.6.2005.

⁽³⁾ COM(2012) 225.

⁽⁴⁾ COM(2013) 139.

⁽⁵⁾ Regulation (EC) No 2006/2004 of 27 October 2004, OJ L364, 9.12.2004, p.1.

(English version)

**Question for written answer P-012038/13
to the Commission**

Paul Murphy (GUE/NGL)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Israeli Government on Horizon 2020

The Commission is currently negotiating a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Israeli Government specifying the conditions under which Israeli entities may participate in and receive financial assistance under the Horizon 2020 programme, which is due to start as of 1 January 2014.

The Commission's authority to enter into such an MoU is based on Article 5 of the EU-Israel Protocol of 15 April 2008 on the general principles governing Israel's participation in EU programmes, which is provisionally applicable in accordance with Article 10(2) thereof.

1. This Protocol has not been approved by Parliament. In view of the present sensitivity of participation in EU programmes by Israeli entities, in particular those established or active in Israeli settlements in Palestine, does the Commission consider itself entitled to conclude a MoU with Israel in spite of the fact that it is not known whether Parliament will give its assent to the Protocol when the question is finally submitted to it?

2. On 19 July 2013 the Commission issued guidelines to ensure that EU grants, loans and prizes do not benefit Israeli settlements in the West Bank, which are considered by the EU as 'illegal and an obstacle to peace'. This is an important step to ensure that the EU does not support the Israeli settlement enterprise. It is reported that Israel opposes a distinction being made between beneficiaries in its recognised territory and those in illegal settlements, and is therefore exercising major pressure for a flexible interpretation of the EU guidelines in the ongoing negotiations on Israel's participation in the Horizon 2020 research funding programme. How are EU negotiators ensuring that the content of the EU guidelines is not compromised in this process?

Answer given by Ms Geoghegan-Quinn on behalf of the Commission

(22 November 2013)

1. The Protocol to the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement on the general principles governing the State of Israel's participation in Community programmes is provisionally applied and hence, allows the Commission to negotiate an agreement with Israel under the Protocol. The Commission has, on 1 August 2013, notified the Parliament of the opening of such negotiations.

2. The application of the Guidelines will be translated into all agreements on Israel's participation in EU programmes to be put in place as from 2014. A high level of media attention reflects the fact that association of Israel to Horizon 2020 is both a high-profile agreement and also the first such agreement to be negotiated for the 2014-20 financial framework. The Guidelines are not subject to re-negotiation. As negotiations are ongoing, the Commission is not able to comment on specific details.

(Nederlandse versie)

Vraag met verzoek om schriftelijk antwoord P-012039/13

aan de Commissie

Marietje Schaake (ALDE)

(22 oktober 2013)

Betreft: Levering van traangas aan de regering van Bahrein

Sinds 2011 vinden er in Bahrein regelmatig confrontaties plaats tussen demonstranten en veiligheidstroepen. De veiligheidstroepen zetten daarbij vaak lukraak traangas in, hetgeen de dood van ongeveer 39 mensen tot gevolg heeft gehad, ofwel door verstikking, ofwel doordat ze door een traangasgranaat op hun hoofd werden geraakt. Volgens een gelekt document van Bahrain Watch wil de regering van Bahrein haar voorraden traangas en andere uitrusting voor het in bedwang houden van menigten, aanvullen ⁽¹⁾. Ze is momenteel op zoek naar bedrijven die een offerte kunnen doen voor de benodigde hoeveelheden. Het Zuid-Koreaanse DaeKwang Chemicals, dat tussen 2011 en 2012 reeds een miljoen traangasgranaten aan Bahrein heeft geleverd ⁽²⁾, zou nu opnieuw een van de aangezochte bedrijven zijn.

1. Is de Commissie het met mij eens dat de levering van traangas aan Bahrein moet worden gestopt en zo niet, waarom niet?
2. Is de Commissie het met mij eens dat er een EU-verbod op de levering van uitrusting voor het in bedwang houden van menigten, waaronder traangas, aan Bahrein moet komen, zoals gevraagd in de resolutie van het Europees Parlement van 17 januari 2013 over de mensenrechtensituatie in Bahrein ⁽³⁾ en zo niet, waarom niet?
3. Is de Commissie het met mij eens dat de belofte van een aantal lidstaten om de afgifte van vergunningen voor de export van militaire uitrusting naar Bahrein streng in de gaten te houden, niet ver genoeg gaat en zo niet, waarom niet?
4. Is de Commissie bereid een voorstel te doen voor beperkende maatregelen, en dat soort maatregelen ook daadwerkelijk te nemen, tegen de personen die in Bahrein verantwoordelijk zijn voor de (aanhoudende) schendingen van de mensenrechten, in overeenstemming met de hierboven aangehaalde resolutie van het Europees Parlement en zo niet, waarom niet?
5. Is de Commissie het met mij eens dat Zuid-Korea gedwongen moet worden zich te houden aan de vigerende vrijhandelsovereenkomst tussen de EU en Zuid-Korea, in het bijzonder wat de bekrachtiging door Zuid-Korea van de Universele Verklaring van de rechten van de mens betreft en zo niet, waarom niet?
6. Is de Commissie bereid dit onderwerp op het hoogste politieke niveau met Zuid-Korea te bespreken, teneinde de mogelijke export van traangas van Zuid-Korea naar Bahrein te voorkomen en zo niet, waarom niet?

Antwoord van hoge vertegenwoordiger/vicevoorzitter Ashton namens de Commissie

(21 november 2013)

De HV/VV volgt de situatie in Bahrein van zeer nabij en zal dit blijven doen.

De hoge vertegenwoordiger/vicevoorzitter heeft steeds benadrukt dat alleen waardevolle en concrete vertrouwenwekkende maatregelen, waaronder de vrijlating van personen die zijn aangehouden in het kader van vreedzame politieke activiteiten, eerbiediging van de vrijheid van vergadering en meningsuiting en inzet voor de politieke hervormingen en de nationale dialoog bij alle partijen, het vertrouwen kunnen herstellen in de aanloop naar werkelijke nationale verzoening, vrede en stabiliteit in het land.

De beslissing om wapenuitvoer toe te staan of te weigeren, wordt aan de lidstaten overgelaten en op EU-niveau gecoördineerd bij Gemeenschappelijk Standpunt 2008/944/CFSP ⁽⁴⁾ (dat in 2008 de eerste gedragscode betreffende wapenuitvoer verving die sinds 1998 in voege was) en door de Groep van de Raad voor de export van conventionele wapens (COARM).

Naar aanleiding van de volksoptstanden in het Midden-Oosten en Noord-Afrika en de Golfregio volgt COARM nauwlettend de ontwikkelingen in deze gebieden, om nationale vergunningverlenende instanties van de meest nuttige informatie over gevoelige exportbestemmingen, zoals Bahrein, te voorzien.

⁽¹⁾ <http://stoptheshipment.org/>.

⁽²⁾ <http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/67a619e2-397d-11e3-a3a4-00144feab7de.html#axzz2iKt2pG80>.

⁽³⁾ Aangenomen teksten, P7_TA(2013)0032.

⁽⁴⁾ Gemeenschappelijk Standpunt 2008/944/GBVB van de Raad van 8 december 2008 tot vaststelling van gemeenschappelijke voorschriften voor de controle op de uitvoer van militaire goederen en technologie, PB L 335, 13.12.2008.

Het opleggen van beperkende maatregelen tegen individuele Bahreini wordt in de huidige politieke omstandigheden niet als gepast beschouwd.

De HV/VV wenst niet te speculeren over mogelijke afzonderlijke besluiten van Zuid-Koreaanse of andere ondernemingen van buiten de EU die willen deelnemen aan aanbestedingsprocedures in Bahrein.

(English version)

**Question for written answer P-012039/13
to the Commission**

Marietje Schaake (ALDE)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Supply of tear gas to the Bahraini Government

Since 2011, protestors and security forces have clashed regularly in Bahrain. Security forces often use tear gas indiscriminately, which has resulted in the deaths of some 39 people by suffocation or being hit on the head by tear gas canisters. According to a leaked document released by advocacy group Bahrain Watch, the Bahraini Government plans to replenish its depleted supplies of tear gas and other crowd control equipment ⁽¹⁾. It is looking for companies to submit bids to supply the required quantities. DaeKwang Chemical of South Korea, which provided 1 million tear gas canisters to Bahrain between 2011 and 2012 ⁽²⁾, may be eligible.

1. Does the Commission agree that shipments of tear gas to Bahrain should be stopped? If not, why not?
2. Does the Commission agree that an EU ban on the export of crowd control equipment, including tear gas, to Bahrain is necessary, in line with the European Parliament resolution of 17 January 2013 on the human rights situation in Bahrain? ⁽³⁾ If not, why not?
3. Does the Commission agree that the promise made by some Member States to closely monitor the granting of licences to export military equipment to Bahrain does not go far enough? If not, why not?
4. Is the Commission willing to propose and introduce restrictive measures against those individuals in Bahrain who are responsible for (ongoing) human rights violations in the country, in line with the abovementioned European Parliament resolution? If not, why not?
5. Does the Commission agree that South Korea should be held to the terms of the EU-South Korea Free Trade Agreement in force, especially as regards its reaffirmation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the agreement? If not, why not?
6. Is the Commission willing to address this issue with South Korea at the highest political level in order to prevent the potential export of tear gas from South Korea to Bahrain? If not, why not?

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Ashton on behalf of the Commission

(21 November 2013)

The HR/VP follows the situation in Bahrain very closely and will continue to do so.

The HR/VP has steadily stressed that only significant and concrete confidence building steps, including the release of those arrested in the context of peaceful political activities, the respect for freedom of assembly and expression, and commitment to political reform and National Dialogue on all sides, have the potential to restore confidence leading up to genuine national reconciliation, peace and stability in the country.

The decision to authorise or deny arms exports remains at the discretion of Member States, coordinated at EU level by Common Position 2008/944/CFSP ⁽⁴⁾ (that replaced in 2008 the initial Code of conduct on arms export in place since 1998) and the Council working party on conventional arms exports (COARM).

Following popular uprisings in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and Gulf regions, COARM closely follows developments in those regions, with a view to providing national licensing authorities with the most relevant information regarding sensitive export destinations, including Bahrain.

Imposing restrictive measures against Bahraini individuals is not considered appropriate at the current political juncture.

The HR/VP does not wish to speculate on potential individual decisions by South Korean or other non-EU companies to take part in tendering processes in Bahrain.

⁽¹⁾ <http://stoptheshipment.org/>

⁽²⁾ <http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/67a619e2-397d-11e3-a3a4-00144feab7de.html#axzz2iKt2pG80>

⁽³⁾ Texts adopted, P7_TA(2013) 0032.

⁽⁴⁾ Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment, OJ L 335, 13.12.2008.

(Deutsche Fassung)

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012042/13
an die Kommission
Ingeborg Gräßle (PPE)
(22. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: OLAF-Ermittlungen: Griechisches Institut für Berufliche Bildung (OEEK) — OF/2011/0704

Presseberichten zufolge wurde im Juli 2010 das OLAF auf Fälle von Missbrauch und Betrug im Griechischen Institut für Berufliche Bildung (OEEK) aufmerksam gemacht. Nachdem das Amt nicht reagierte, wurde der Kabinettschef des zuständigen Kommissars eingeschaltet. Auch daraufhin reagierte das Amt nur schwerfällig. Bis heute seien nur 516 000 EUR, damit ein Zwölftel des geschätzten Schadens für den EU-Haushalt von 4,5 Millionen EUR, zurückgefordert worden. Strafrechtlich seien die Verschwendungsfälle bereits verjährt.

1. Wann wurde der Vorgang in das Fallmanagementsystem des OLAF eingepflegt?
2. Wann wurde der Fall vom OLAF geschlossen?
3. Wurde die Kommission als Quelle der Information in den Fallakten vermerkt oder der Informant?
4. Welche Ermittlungsmethoden hat das OLAF nach Anzeige des Falls unternommen, um die Vorwürfe zu klären?
5. Zu welchem Ergebnis kam das OLAF?
6. Welche Empfehlungen gab das OLAF ab?
7. Wie wurde der Fall nach Abschluss der OLAF-Ermittlung weiterverfolgt?
8. Wie wurden die Informationen, die der Rechnungsprüfer des OEEK dem OLAF zur Verfügung stellte, bewertet?
9. Warum hat OLAF nach der ersten Anzeige im Jahr 2010 nicht reagiert?
10. Wie wird die Kommission mit dem restlichen, noch nicht wiedereingezogenen Schaden von geschätzten 4 Millionen EUR umgehen?
11. Was sind die nächsten Schritte der Kommission?
12. Wird die Kommission den Abschlussbericht und die Wiedereinziehungsentscheidungen im Fall OF/2011/0704 ungeschwärzt und vollständig veröffentlichen oder dem Parlament, insbesondere den Mitgliedern des Haushaltskontrollausschusses des Europäischen Parlaments, gegebenenfalls auch vertraulich zur Einsicht zur Verfügung stellen?
13. Wann?

**Antwort von Herrn Šemeta im Namen der Kommission
(20. Dezember 2013)**

Das OLAF hat der Kommission mitgeteilt, dass die von der Frau Abgeordneten angesprochenen Angelegenheiten Gegenstand eines schwebenden Verfahrens sind⁽¹⁾. Dieser Fall wird vom OLAF in enger Zusammenarbeit mit den zuständigen griechischen Behörden, und zwar dem Strafgericht erster Instanz von Athen, dem Richterrat des Appellationshofs von Athen und dem griechischen Rechnungshof, untersucht.

Der justizielle Teil dieses Falls ist Gegenstand eines laufenden Strafprozesses vor den genannten nationalen Gerichten, sein finanzieller Teil wird (auf Ersuchen der betreffenden Gerichte) vom griechischen Rechnungshof detailliert geprüft.

⁽¹⁾ Aktenzeichen OF/2011/0704.

Seit Aufnahme dieses Falls in das Fallmanagementsystem im Jahre 2011 hat das OLAF demjenigen, der es über diese Angelegenheit unterrichtet hat, mehrfach mitgeteilt, dass erst dann eine mögliche strafrechtliche Haftung und eine damit einhergehende mögliche finanzielle Haftung (im Hinblick auf griechische oder auf EU-Haushaltsmittel) festgestellt werden kann, wenn das Ergebnis der beiden laufenden Verfahren vorliegt. Die Frau Abgeordnete hat sicherlich dafür Verständnis, dass ein ordnungsgemäßes Verfahren respektiert werden muss und das OLAF angesichts laufender Gerichtsverfahren die Pflicht hat, von weiteren Stellungnahmen abzusehen.

Erst wenn die Verfahren abgeschlossen sind, kann das OLAF Schlüsse aus diesem Fall ziehen und Empfehlungen abgeben bzw. weitere Maßnahmen ergreifen, falls dies für angemessen gehalten wird.

(English version)

Question for written answer E-012042/13
to the Commission
Ingeborg Gräßle (PPE)
(22 October 2013)

Subject: OLAF investigations: Greek Office for Vocational Education and Training (OEEK) — OF/2011/0704

According to press reports, in July 2010 OLAF's attention was drawn to cases of misuse of funds and fraud in the Greek Office for Vocational Education and Training (OEEK). When this brought no response from OLAF, the head of cabinet of the Commissioner responsible became involved, but even then OLAF continued to drag its feet. To date only EUR 516 000, i.e. roughly one-eighth of the estimated loss to the EU budget of EUR 4.5 million, has been recovered. These cases involving the waste of public money can no longer give rise to prosecutions.

1. When were details of the case first entered in OLAF's case management system?
2. When did OLAF close the case?
3. Was it the Commission or the whistle-blower who was recorded as the information source in the case files?
4. After being notified of the case, what investigative measures did OLAF take in order to shed light on the allegations?
5. What conclusions did OLAF reach?
6. What recommendations did OLAF make?
7. How was the case followed up after the OLAF investigation closed?
8. How was the information made available to OLAF by OEEK's auditors assessed?
9. Why did OLAF fail to take action when it was first informed about the case in 2010?
10. What is the Commission going to do about the money that has not yet been recovered, estimated to be EUR 4 million?
11. What does the Commission plan to do next?
12. Will the Commission publish or make available to Parliament, in particular the members of Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control, a full, unredacted version of the final report and the recovery decisions concerning case OF/2011/0704, confidentially if necessary?
13. When?

Answer given by Mr Šemeta on behalf of the Commission
(20 December 2013)

The Commission has been informed by OLAF that the matters mentioned in the Honourable Member's question are the subject of an ongoing case ⁽¹⁾. This case is being conducted by OLAF in close cooperation with the relevant Greek authorities, namely the Criminal Court of First Instance of Athens, the Council of Magistrates of the Court of Appeal of Athens and the Court of Auditors of Greece.

The case in question has both a judicial part, which is the subject of ongoing criminal proceedings in the named courts at national level; and a financial part, which is the subject of an ongoing detailed examination by the Court of Auditors of Greece (having been required to do so by the courts in question).

⁽¹⁾ Reference of the case: OF/2011/0704.

Since the recording of the case in its case management system in 2011, OLAF has regularly explained to the person who brought the matters to its attention that the determination on possible penal responsibility and the related question of possible financial liabilities (whether in respect of Greek or EU funds) must await the outcome of these two ongoing processes. The Honourable Member will understand that due process has to be respected and that in the light of ongoing judicial proceedings OLAF is under a duty to refrain from commenting further.

Once these processes are completed, OLAF will be in a position to conclude its case and make recommendations or take additional action if deemed appropriate.

(Ελληνική έκδοση)

Ερώτηση με αίτημα γραπτής απάντησης E-012043/13
προς την Επιτροπή
Charalampos Angourakis (GUE/NGL)
(22 Οκτωβρίου 2013)

Θέμα: Ένταση του δόγματος «Νόμος και τάξη» εις βάρος του εργατικού λαϊκού κινήματος

Στην Ελλάδα η ανεργία αγγίζει το 28%, ενώ οι 87 στους 100 άνεργους δεν παίρνουν καν επίδομα ανεργίας, το οποίο φτάνει μόλις στα 361 ευρώ. Πολλές χιλιάδες εργαζόμενοι παραμένουν απλήρωτοι για μήνες. Οι φόροι και τα χαράτσια αυξάνονται, γίνονται κατασχέσεις σπιτιών για μικρές οφειλές στην εφορία, κόβεται το ρεύμα σε ανθρώπους που αντικειμενικά δεν έχουν να πληρώσουν. Δεκάδες χιλιάδες οικογένειες θα μείνουν χωρίς θέρμανση.

Ταυτόχρονα πληθαίνουν οι αγώνες του ΠΑΜΕ, των Λαϊκών Επιτροπών, των εκπαιδευτικών και των μαθητών. Εφαρμόζοντας το αυταρχικό δόγμα «Νόμος και Τάξη», όπως επιτάσσουν οι εργοδότες και η άρχουσα τάξη, η συγκυβέρνηση ΝΔ-ΠΑΣΟΚ προσπαθεί να επιβάλει «σιγή νεκροταφείου».

Ιδιαίτερη αγανάκτηση και ένα ευρύ κίνημα αλληλεγγύης προκάλεσαν και τα ακόλουθα κρούσματα:

- Η σύλληψη 20 μαθητών του 1ου ΕΠΑΛ Λαμίας με πρόσχημα τη διατάραξη της κοινής ησυχίας και η αυτόφωρη διαδικασία για 8 από αυτούς διότι κάνανε κατάληψη για να μην κλείσει το σχολείο τους μετά τις διαθεσιμότητες των εκπαιδευτικών και την κατάργηση των ειδικοτήτων τους. Τα παιδιά δηλαδή δικάζονται γιατί παλεύουν για το αυτονόητο δικαίωμά τους στη μόρφωση και στη ζωή.
- Η επέμβαση των ΜΑΤ στο κτίριο της Περιφερειακής Ενότητας Εύβοιας, πριν μερικές μέρες, που τελούσε υπό κατάληψη από τους εργαζόμενους απλήρωτους και απολυμένους υπαλλήλους πολλών εργοστασίων της περιοχής που το τελευταίο διάστημα κλείσανε, ενώ, υπό νέα διεύθυνση, πουλάνε το στοκ τους κρατώντας έτσι τους εργαζόμενους όμηρους σε μια κατάσταση όπου δεν είναι ούτε εργαζόμενοι, ούτε άνεργοι και δεν έχουν ούτε κάρτα ανεργίας, ούτε ασφάλιση, ούτε και μισθό.

Ερωτάται η Επιτροπή: πώς τοποθετείται απέναντι στις πρωτοφανείς ενέργειες αυταρχισμού της ελληνικής συγκυβέρνησης ΝΔ-ΠΑΣΟΚ;

Απάντηση της κ. Reding εξ ονόματος της Επιτροπής
(9 Δεκεμβρίου 2013)

Με βάση τις Συνθήκες στις οποίες είναι θεμελιωμένη η Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση, η Ευρωπαϊκή Επιτροπή δεν διαθέτει γενικές εξουσίες παρέμβασης. Νομιμοποιείται να το πράττει μόνον εάν τίθεται ζήτημα δικαίου της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης. Σύμφωνα με το άρθρο 51 παράγραφος 1, τα δικαιώματα και οι ελευθερίες που κατοχυρώνονται από τον Χάρτη Θεμελιωδών Δικαιωμάτων πρέπει να τηρούνται από τα κράτη μέλη μόνο όταν εφαρμόζουν ενωσιακή νομοθεσία.

Από τις πληροφορίες που υπέβαλε το Αξιότιμο Μέλος του Κοινοβουλίου, το ζήτημα στο οποίο αναφέρεται δεν δείχνει να σχετίζεται με την εφαρμογή του δικαίου της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης. Ειδικότερα, σύμφωνα με το άρθρο 72 της Συνθήκης για τη λειτουργία της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης, εναπόκειται στα κράτη μέλη να διατηρούν τον νόμο και την τάξη και να διαφυλάσσουν την εσωτερική ασφάλεια στη χώρα τους, σύμφωνα με την ισχύουσα νομοθεσία.

Στις περιπτώσεις αυτές, εναπόκειται στα κράτη μέλη, συμπεριλαμβανομένων των δικαστικών αρχών, να εξασφαλίσουν ότι τα θεμελιώδη δικαιώματα τηρούνται αποτελεσματικά και προστατεύονται σύμφωνα με την εθνική τους νομοθεσία και τις διεθνείς τους υποχρεώσεις για τα ανθρώπινα δικαιώματα, όπως προκύπτουν ιδίως από την Ευρωπαϊκή Σύμβαση Δικαιωμάτων του Ανθρώπου και από τη Σύμβαση των Ηνωμένων Εθνών για τα δικαιώματα του παιδιού.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012043/13
to the Commission**

Charalampos Angourakis (GUE/NGL)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Intensified use of the 'Law and Order' doctrine against the working people's movement

In Greece, unemployment is nearing 28%, and 87 out of 100 unemployed people do not even receive unemployment benefit, which amounts to just EUR 361. Several thousand people who are in work have not been paid for months. Taxes and tax hikes are on the increase, houses are being confiscated because of small debts to the tax authority, and power is being cut off for people who have no money to pay. Tens of thousands of families will be without heating.

At the same time, the All-workers' Militant Front, the People's Committees, and teachers and pupils are increasing their struggle. By implementing the authoritarian doctrine of 'Law and Order' required by employers and the ruling class, the coalition Government of New Democracy and PASOK is attempting to impose the 'silence of the tomb'.

The following incidents have caused particular resentment and a very broad solidarity movement:

- The arrest of 20 pupils from the 1st High School of Lamia on the pretext of a breach of the peace, and the accelerated court procedure for eight of them on the ground that they had occupied the school to prevent it from being closed down after the teachers were placed on standby and their specialisations discontinued. In other words, children are being tried because they are fighting for the self-evident right to education and life.
- The intervention a few days ago of riot police at the building of the Evia Regional Authority, which was occupied by unpaid employees and former employees of many factories in the region that have recently closed down, the new managers of which are selling their stock, and in this way keeping the employees as hostages in a situation where they are neither employed nor unemployed, and they have no unemployment card, insurance or salary.

What is the Commission's position regarding the unprecedented authoritarian actions of the Greek coalition Government of New Democracy and PASOK?

Answer given by Mrs Reding on behalf of the Commission

(9 December 2013)

Under the Treaties on which the European Union is based, the European Commission has no general powers to intervene. It can do so only if an issue of European Union law is involved. According to its Article 51(1), the rights and freedoms enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights must be respected by Member States only when they are implementing Union law.

From the information provided by the Honourable Member, the matter referred to does not appear to be related to the implementation of European Union law. In particular, according to Article 72 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, it is the responsibility of Member States to maintain law and order and safeguard the internal security in their country in line with applicable legislation.

In such situations, it is for Member States, including their judicial authorities, to ensure that fundamental rights are effectively respected and protected in accordance with their national legislation and international human rights obligations, in particular as resulting from the European Convention on Human Rights and from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

(Ελληνική έκδοση)

Ερώτηση με αίτημα γραπτής απάντησης E-012045/13
προς την Επιτροπή
Nikolaos Salavrakos (EFD)
(22 Οκτωβρίου 2013)

Θέμα: Κλείσιμο αμυντικών βιομηχανιών στην Ελλάδα

Μεγάλη έκταση πήρε στον ελληνικό Τύπο το διαβόητο «ηλεκτρονικό μήνυμα» σύμφωνα με το οποίο στέλεχος της Επιτροπής ζητούσε δραστικά μέτρα και συρρίκνωση της ελληνικής αμυντικής βιομηχανίας, κάτι που ασφαλώς δεν μπορεί να γίνει δοθέντος του περιγύρου της Ελλάδας και των συνεχών απειλών που αντιμετωπίζουν Ελλάδα και Κύπρος εκ μέρους της Τουρκίας.

1. Είναι άποψη της Επιτροπής ότι θα πρέπει να κλείσουν εργοστάσια που σχετίζονται με την παραγωγή πολεμικού υλικού στην Ελλάδα;
2. Εστάλη τέτοιο ηλεκτρονικό μήνυμα στην ελληνική κυβέρνηση: Αν ναι, με πρωτοβουλία ποιού;

Απάντηση του κ. Rehn εξ ονόματος της Επιτροπής
(16 Δεκεμβρίου 2013)

1. Η Επιτροπή έχει επίγνωση των προκλήσεων που η ευρωπαϊκή αμυντική βιομηχανία αντιμετωπίζει και ενέκρινε στις 24 Ιουλίου τρέχοντος έτους ανακοίνωση στην οποία εκθέτει μια σειρά προτάσεων για να ενισχύσει την εσωτερική αγορά και την ανταγωνιστικότητα της αμυντικής βιομηχανίας ανά την Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση. Ωστόσο, η Επιτροπή δεν έχει την πρόθεση να επηρεάσει την πολιτική άμυνας της Ελλάδας, υπό την προϋπόθεση ότι ευθυγραμμίζεται με τη νομοθεσία της ΕΕ. Η Επιτροπή πιστεύει ότι οι ελληνικές κρατικές επιχειρήσεις πρέπει να είναι αποδοτικές και οικονομικά βιώσιμες.
2. Η Επιτροπή διατήρησε πράγματι αλληλογραφία με τις ελληνικές αρχές προκειμένου να παρακολουθεί τη συμμόρφωση με ένα από τα ορόσημα στον τομέα των ιδιωτικοποιήσεων που συνδέονται με το δεύτερο τμήμα της δόσης του EFSF που αντιστοιχεί στην 3η ανασκόπηση. Εν προκειμένω απαιτείται από τις αρχές να «υιοθετήσει αμετάκλητες αποφάσεις μέχρι τον Αύγουστο του 2013 για την αναδιάρθρωση — η οποία συνεπάγεται ουσιαστική συρρίκνωση — εν όψει της ιδιωτικοποίησης, ή για την εξυγίανση των ΕΛΒΟ, ΗΔΣ, και ΛΑΡΚΟ, σύμφωνα με τους κανόνες περί κρατικών ενισχύσεων, με στόχο την υλοποίηση των αποφάσεων αυτών έως τον Δεκέμβριο του 2013». Η Επιτροπή, ωστόσο, δεν μπορεί να σχολιάσει δημοσιεύματα του Τύπου σχετικά με το θέμα αυτό. Η Επιτροπή θα δημοσιεύσει τις απόψεις της σχετικά με τα ορόσημα που συνδέονται με την προηγούμενη ανασκόπηση και άλλα θέματα που έχουν σχέση με την τρέχουσα ανασκόπηση του προγράμματος προσαρμογής για την Ελλάδα, μετά την ολοκλήρωσή της.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012045/13
to the Commission**

Nikolaos Salavrakos (EFD)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Defence industry closures in Greece

Wide coverage has been given in the Greek press to an infamous 'email', according to which a Commission official was asking for drastic measures and the shrinking of the Greek defence industry, something which surely cannot be done given Greece's surrounding environment and the constant threats which Greece and Cyprus face from Turkey.

1. Is it the Commission's view that defence-related factories in Greece will have to close down?
2. Has such an email been sent to the Greek Government? If so, on whose initiative?

Answer given by Mr Rehn on behalf of the Commission

(16 December 2013)

1. The Commission is aware of the challenges the European defence industry is facing and adopted on 24th July this year a communication which sets out a number of proposals to strengthen the internal market and the competitiveness of defence industry across the EU. Nevertheless, the Commission has no intention to influence the defence policies of Greece, provided that they are in line with EC law. The Commission believes that Greece's state-owned enterprises should be efficient and financially viable.

2. The Commission has indeed maintained correspondence with the Greek authorities in order to monitor compliance with one of the milestones in the field of privatisations linked to the second sub-tranche of the EFSF instalment corresponding to the 3rd review. The milestone requires the authorities to 'adopt irreversible decisions by August 2013 on the restructuring, involving substantial downsizing, ahead of privatisation or on the resolution of ELVO, HDS, and LARCO, both in compliance with state aid rules, with a view to implementing these decisions by December-2013'. The Commission will, however, not comment on press reports on this issue. The Commission will publish its views on the milestones linked to the previous review and other issues related to the ongoing review of the adjustment programme for Greece after its completion.

(Ελληνική έκδοση)

Ερώτηση με αίτημα γραπτής απάντησης E-012046/13

**προς την Επιτροπή
Nikolaos Salavrakos (EFD)**

(22 Οκτωβρίου 2013)

Θέμα: Υπερβολική επιβάρυνση ΙΧ αυτοκινήτων στην Ελλάδα

Είναι γνωστό ότι τα ΙΧ είναι πανάκριβα στην Ελλάδα, και ως προς την αγορά τους, και ως προς την κίνησή τους (λόγω του εξαιρετικά ακριβού καυσίμου) και ως προς την πληρωμή τελών κυκλοφορίας, συνεχών εισφορών, έκτακτων επιβαρύνσεων κ.ο.κ.

Εσχάτως ανακοινώθηκε στην Ελλάδα και νέος φόρος πολυτελείας για τα αυτοκίνητα με κυβισμό πάνω από 1 929 κ. εκ. Ένα αυτοκίνητο, δηλαδή, που αγοράστηκε π.χ. 40 000 ευρώ το 2009 είχε με τιμή αγοράς 15%-20% μεγαλύτερη π.χ. από το Βέλγιο και επιβαρύνεται συνεχώς με έκτακτες εισφορές, έχει αξία σήμερα κάτω από 13 000 ευρώ (και λόγω της καχεξίας ουδείς το αγοράζει) και — παρόλα αυτά — εξακολουθεί να θεωρείται από τις ελληνικές αρχές ως «αντικείμενο πολυτελείας»(!)

Είναι ανεκτό από την Επιτροπή να υπάρχει αυτή η προκλητική και άδικη επιβάρυνση ενός μεταφορικού μέσου σε μια χώρα μέλος της ΕΕ;

Απάντηση του κ. Šemeta εξ ονόματος της Επιτροπής

(29 Νοεμβρίου 2013)

Η φορολογία οχημάτων προς το παρόν δεν είναι εναρμονισμένη σε επίπεδο ΕΕ. Κατά συνέπεια, τα κράτη μέλη έχουν δικαίωμα να αποφασίζουν και να εφαρμόζουν το επίπεδο φορολογίας που θεωρούν ότι είναι κατάλληλο. Σήμερα, το επίπεδο φορολογίας των κρατών μελών διαφέρει αρκετά· ορισμένα κράτη μέλη επιβάλλουν πολύ υψηλούς φόρους στα αυτοκίνητα, ενώ άλλα χαμηλότερους ή και κανένα. Τα κράτη μέλη έχουν το δικαίωμα να ενεργούν κατ' αυτόν τον τρόπο, υπό τον όρο ότι τηρείται η αρχή της αποφυγής των διακρίσεων, που περιέχεται στο άρθρο 110 της συνθήκης για τη λειτουργία της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης. Ο φόρος επί οχήματος που αφορά τα αλλοδαπά και τα εγχώρια οχήματα δεν παραβιάζει την εν λόγω αρχή.

Η Επιτροπή επεδίωξε τη διόρθωση της υφιστάμενης έλλειψης εναρμόνισης σε πολλά επίπεδα, τελευταία δε με την υποβολή πρότασης οδηγίας το 2005 (COM(2005)261) τελικό της 5ης Ιουλίου 2005. Ωστόσο, η παρούσα πρόταση δεν έτυχε αρκετής στήριξης από κράτη μέλη.

Παρά την ελευθερία άσκησης πολιτικής που έχουν τα κράτη μέλη στον τομέα αυτό, η Επιτροπή επαγρυπνει στο πλαίσιο του ρόλου της ως «θεματοφύλακα των Συνθηκών», προκειμένου να εξασφαλιστεί η τήρηση, από τα κράτη μέλη, της αρχής της μη διάκρισης και το κεκτημένο της ΕΕ.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012046/13
to the Commission
Nikolaos Salavrakos (EFD)
(22 October 2013)**

Subject: Excessive charges for private cars in Greece

It is known that private cars are very expensive in Greece, both to buy and to use (due to the high cost of fuel), and also due to road taxes, continuous contributions, extraordinary charges etc.

A new luxury tax has recently been announced in Greece for cars with engines larger than 1929 cc. This means that a car purchased, for example, for EUR 40 000 in 2009 with a market price 15-20% higher than in Belgium, for example, and constantly burdened with extraordinary contributions, today has a value of less than EUR 13 000 (and due to the bad situation nobody will buy it), and — in spite of all that — the Greek authorities still consider it to be a 'luxury item'!

Does the Commission accept such a provocative and unfair surcharge on a means of transport in an EU Member State?

**Answer given by Mr Šemeta on behalf of the Commission
(29 November 2013)**

Vehicle taxation is currently not harmonised at EU level. As a consequence, Member States are entitled to decide upon and implement the level of taxation that they see fit. Currently the level of taxation among Member States is quite different; some Member States levy very high taxes on vehicles while others levy lower ones or even none. Member States are entitled to do so provided that the principle of non-discrimination enshrined in Article 110 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union is respected. A tax on a vehicle that treats foreign vehicles and domestic ones alike does not infringe that principle.

The Commission has sought to remedy the current lack of harmonisation on several instances, the last being the submission of a proposal for a directive in 2005 (COM(2005) 261 final of 5 July 2005). However, this proposal did not receive enough support from Member States.

Notwithstanding the policy freedom enjoyed by Member States in this field, the Commission remains vigilant in its role as 'Guardian of the Treaties' to ensure the respect by Member States of the principle of non-discrimination and the EU acquis.

(Ελληνική έκδοση)

Ερώτηση με αίτημα γραπτής απάντησης E-012047/13
προς την Επιτροπή
Nikolaos Salavrakos (EFD)
(22 Οκτωβρίου 2013)

Θέμα: Προκήρυξη της Ευρωπαϊκής Επιτροπής και χρήση του όρου «Μακεδονία» για τα Σκόπια

Η Επιτροπή («Directorate-General for Translation, Directorate R — Resources, Unit R.4») ανακοίνωσε την Προκήρυξη «EMT Network — 2013/2014 selection round) στην οποία αναφέρεται ότι ανάμεσα στις επιλέξιμες χώρες είναι και η ... Μακεδονία! Επειδή — ως γνωστόν, τέτοια χώρα δεν υπάρχει (Μακεδονία είναι το βόρειο τμήμα της Ελλάδας) και επειδή η ΕΕ έχει αναγνωρίσει τα Σκόπια ως FYROM, προκαλεί εντύπωση η διατύπωση της παραπάνω προκήρυξης, η οποία προέρχεται και από μια Γενική Διεύθυνση που — υποτίθεται ότι — είναι ευαίσθητη για τους όρους, τα ονόματα και την απόδοσή τους.

Ποιος είναι ο λόγος του λάθους αυτού και γιατί η Επιτροπή επιτρέπει να γίνονται τέτοια χονδροειδή και προκλητικά λάθη; Τι μέτρα προτίθεται να λάβει για την άμεση διόρθωση του λάθους αυτού;

Απάντηση της κ. Βασιλείου εξ ονόματος της Επιτροπής
(28 Νοεμβρίου 2013)

Ο κύριος βουλευτής επισημαίνει ένα ατυχές συντακτικό λάθος, που εν τω μεταξύ διορθώθηκε ώστε να χρησιμοποιηθεί η προσωρινή αναφορά με την οποία η χώρα έγινε δεκτή στα Ηνωμένα Έθνη. Η Επιτροπή λυπάται για αυτήν την παραδρομή και ζητά συγνώμη από εκείνους τους οποίους ενδεχομένως έθιξε.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012047/13
to the Commission**

Nikolaos Salavrakos (EFD)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: European Commission Notice using the term 'Macedonia' for 'Skopje'

The Commission (Directorate-General for Translation, Directorate R — Resources, Unit R.4) has issued a Notice ('EMT Network — 2013/2014 selection round') in which it mentions that the eligible countries include 'Macedonia'. Since — as is known — no such country exists (Macedonia is the northern part of Greece), and as the EU has recognised Skopje as FYROM, the formulation of the above notice is striking, especially as it comes from a Directorate-General which is supposed to be sensitive to terms, names and the rendering thereof.

What is the reason for this mistake, and why did the Commission allow such gross and provocative errors to occur? What measures does it intend to take for the immediate correction of this error?

Answer given by Ms Vassiliou on behalf of the Commission

(28 November 2013)

The Honourable Member points to an unfortunate drafting mistake that has been corrected in the meantime to use the provisional reference under which the country was admitted to the United Nations. The Commission regrets this inadvertent error and presents its apologies to those whom it might have offended.

(Version française)

Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012048/13

à la Commission

Sandrine Bélier (Verts/ALE)

(22 octobre 2013)

Objet: Évaluation sanitaire du MON810: invalidation d'un résultat de Monsanto par un expert de l'AESA

Une étude sur l'évaluation des OGM dans l'Union européenne a été réalisée par l'association française InfOGM ⁽¹⁾, en se fondant notamment sur le dossier de demande de renouvellement d'autorisation du maïs GM MON810 de la société Monsanto. Ces travaux mettent en cause la fiabilité de certaines présentations de résultats par cet industriel, ainsi que de certaines des méthodes utilisées pour l'évaluation sanitaire du MON810 et des autres PGM.

L'association évoque le cas du test de résistance à la pepsine (ou de digestibilité *in vitro*) et indique qu'un expert du panel OGM de l'Autorité européenne de sécurité des aliments (AESA), Jean-Michel Wal, spécialiste de ces questions, a révélé qu'en conditions proches de celles rencontrées en physiologie de la digestion, la protéine Cry1Ab (protéine d'intérêt du MON810) n'est pas détruite en liquide gastrique simulé. Ce résultat est strictement en contradiction avec celui présenté par Monsanto dans son dossier, résultat pourtant validé par l'AESA comme faisant partie du faisceau d'arguments en faveur de l'innocuité du MON810.

1. Comment la Commission européenne peut-elle expliquer la validation par l'AESA d'un résultat infirmé par l'un de ses experts?
2. La Commission estime-t-elle qu'un test fait dans des conditions non physiologiques et dénoncé comme tel par au moins un des experts de l'AESA peut être pris en compte dans l'évaluation sanitaire des OGM?

Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012049/13

à la Commission

Sandrine Bélier (Verts/ALE)

(22 octobre 2013)

Objet: Évaluation sanitaire du MON810

Une étude sur l'évaluation des OGM dans l'Union européenne a été réalisée par l'association française InfOGM ⁽²⁾, en se fondant notamment sur le dossier de demande de renouvellement d'autorisation du maïs GM MON810 de la société Monsanto. Ces travaux mettent sérieusement en cause la fiabilité de certaines présentations de résultats par cet industriel, ainsi que de certaines des méthodes utilisées pour l'évaluation sanitaire du MON810 et des autres PGM.

InfOGM affirme que dans le dossier du MON810, lors de l'analyse en composition, les comparaisons des moyennes obtenues pour le MON810 avec les intervalles publiés («*literature range*») et les intervalles historiques («*reported range*») ne sont citées que pour les cas où les résultats sont en faveur de la conclusion voulue par Monsanto et sont passées sous silence lorsque ces moyennes se situent hors des intervalles publiés et/ou historiques.

1. La Commission peut-elle confirmer qu'il en est bien ainsi?
2. Si oui, la Commission peut-elle confirmer ou infirmer que de telles pratiques de tri des données sont scientifiquement recevables?

L'association critique la validité de ces références publiées et historiques provenant de cultures faites dans des conditions très différentes de celles de l'expérience de comparaison.

3. La Commission peut-elle affirmer la pertinence de ces comparateurs (publiés et historiques)?

Toujours à propos de ces comparateurs, InfOGM cite le cas troublant de la moyenne du taux d'histidine, supérieure à l'intervalle publié et inférieure à l'intervalle historique, tous deux servant de référence de valeurs normales. L'histidine se trouverait donc, selon les comparateurs utilisés par Monsanto, à la fois supérieure et inférieure à la normale.

4. La Commission peut-elle expliquer le sens biologique d'un tel résultat?

⁽¹⁾ «Expertise des OGM: l'évaluation tourne le dos à la science», <http://infogm.org>.

⁽²⁾ «Expertise des OGM: l'évaluation tourne le dos à la science», <http://infogm.org>.

Réponse commune donnée par M. Borg au nom de la Commission*(12 décembre 2013)*

Les questions de l'Honorable Parlementaire portent sur des détails de l'évaluation des risques effectuée par l'Autorité européenne de sécurité des aliments (EFSA); celle-ci a été invitée à fournir des éléments permettant à la Commission de répondre à ces questions. Les informations seront disponibles sous peu.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012048/13
to the Commission**

Sandrine Bélier (Verts/ALE)
(22 October 2013)

Subject: Safety assessment of MON810: invalidation of a Monsanto result by a European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) expert

A study on the assessment of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in the European Union has been conducted by the French association Inf'OGM ⁽¹⁾, with a particular focus on the application for renewal of the authorisation of Monsanto's MON810 genetically modified maize. The study casts doubt on the reliability of some of the results published by Monsanto and of some of the methods used to assess the safety of MON810 and other genetically modified plants.

Inf'OGM refers to the pepsin-resistance (or *in vitro* digestion) test and reports that Jean-Michel Wal, an expert on EFSA's GMO panel and a specialist in these matters, indicated that in conditions close to those of the physiology of digestion, the Cry1Ab protein (MON810 protein of interest) is not destroyed in simulated gastric fluid. This result totally contradicts the result presented by Monsanto in its case, yet it was validated by EFSA as part of the body of evidence for the safety of MON810.

1. Can the Commission explain why EFSA validated a result which was invalidated by one of its own experts?
2. Does the Commission consider that a test carried out in non-physiological conditions and exposed as such by at least one EFSA expert can be taken into account when assessing the safety of GMOs?

**Question for written answer E-012049/13
to the Commission**

Sandrine Bélier (Verts/ALE)
(22 October 2013)

Subject: Safety assessment of MON810

A study on the assessment of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in the European Union has been conducted by the French association Inf'OGM ⁽²⁾, with a particular focus on the application for renewal of the authorisation of Monsanto's MON810 genetically modified maize. The study casts serious doubt on the reliability of some of the results published by Monsanto and of some of the methods used to assess the safety of MON810 and other genetically modified plants.

In the case of MON810 Inf'OGM asserts that during the composition analysis, comparisons of the averages obtained for MON810 with the literature range and the reported range are only cited for cases where the results support Monsanto's desired conclusion and are ignored when those averages fall outside the literature range and/or reported range.

1. Can the Commission confirm that this is indeed the case?
2. If yes, can the Commission confirm or refute that using selected data in this way is scientifically valid?

Inf'OGM questions the validity of these reported and literature references, which were derived from crops produced in conditions very different from those of the comparison experiment.

3. Can the Commission confirm that these comparators (literature and reported) are relevant?

On this same issue of comparators, Inf'OGM cites the disturbing case of the average histidine rate, which was above the literature range and below the reported range; both of these are used as references for normal values. According to the comparators used by Monsanto, the histidine rate would therefore be both above and below normal.

4. Can the Commission give a biological explanation of this result?

⁽¹⁾ 'GMO expertise: assessment turns its back on science', <http://infogm.org>

⁽²⁾ 'GMO expertise: assessment turns its back on science', <http://infogm.org>.

Joint answer given by Mr Borg on behalf of the Commission
(12 December 2013)

The questions of the Honourable Member concern details of the risk assessment carried out by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), which has been requested to provide elements allowing the Commission to answer to the questions. The information will be available shortly.

(Wersja polska)

**Pytanie wymagające odpowiedzi pisemnej E-012050/13
do Komisji (Wiceprzewodniczącej/Wysokiej Przedstawiciel)**

Adam Bielan (ECR)
(22 października 2013 r.)

Przedmiot: Wiceprzewodnicząca/Wysoka Przedstawiciel – W związku prośbą polskiego MSZ dotyczącą kwestii zwrotu przez Rosję wraku TU-154

W grudniu ubiegłego roku polski minister spraw zagranicznych zwrócił się do Pani Wiceprzewodniczącej/Wysokiej Przedstawiciel z prośbą, aby w oficjalnych rozmowach z Rosją poruszyła kwestię wraku prezydenckiego samolotu, który rozbił się pod Smoleńskiem w dniu 10 kwietnia 2010 r. Strona rosyjska dotychczas nie podjęła decyzji odnośnie zwrotu ww. wraku, o co wielokrotnie zabiegały polskie władze. Sprawa wraku pozostaje niezwykle ważna dla prowadzonego w Polsce śledztwa związanego z katastrofą smoleńską.

W związku z powyższym zwracam się z prośbą o informacje, czy i jakie działania na szczeblu relacji Unia Europejska–Rosja zostały zainicjowane w przedmiotowej sprawie oraz jakie są ich rezultaty w chwili obecnej? Jaka jest – w opinii Wiceprzewodniczącej/Wysokiej Przedstawiciel – perspektywa pomyślnego zakończenia tej sprawy?

**Odpowiedź udzielona przez Wysoką Przedstawiciel/Wiceprzewodniczącą Komisji Catherine Ashton
w imieniu Komisji**
(3 grudnia 2013 r.)

Katastrofa smoleńska, która miała miejsce 10 kwietnia 2010 r., kiedy to rozbił się samolot polskich Sił Powietrznych, Tupolew TU-154M, i wskutek której zginął Prezydent Polski oraz 95 innych osób, była tragedią nie tylko dla tych, którzy stracili swoich bliskich, ale także dla całego polskiego narodu oraz ogółu społeczeństwa europejskiego. Wiele krajów i organizacji międzynarodowych wyraziło żal i złożyło Polakom kondolencje z powodu wypadku.

Zdając sobie w pełni sprawę ze znaczenia tej kwestii dla stosunków polsko-rosyjskich, Wysoka Przedstawiciel / Wiceprzewodnicząca Komisji wyraziła życzenie, aby trwające rosyjskie dochodzenie zostało wkrótce ukończone, a wrak samolotu przekazany Polsce.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012050/13
to the Commission (Vice-President/High Representative)**

Adam Bielan (ECR)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: VP/HR — request by the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Russia to return the crashed TU-154

In December last year, the Polish Minister for Foreign Affairs asked the Vice-President/High Representative to raise the issue of the presidential plane crash which occurred close to Smolensk on 10 April 2010 in official talks with Russia. The Russian side has so far failed to reach any decision on the question of returning the plane wreck, even though the Polish authorities have requested this on many occasions. The remains of the crashed plane are of vital importance for the investigation into the Smolensk tragedy which is currently underway in Poland.

I would therefore like to ask whether any action has been taken on this matter in the context of relations between the European Union and Russia, and if so what the nature of the action was and what its outcome has been. In the opinion of the Vice-President/High Representative, what is the likelihood of a favourable outcome?

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Ashton on behalf of the Commission

(3 December 2013)

The Smolensk accident on 10 April 2010 when a Tupolev TU-154M aircraft of the Polish Air Force crashed and the Polish President and 95 other people lost their lives was a tragedy, not only for those who lost their loved ones but for the whole Polish nation as well as for the European public at large. Many countries and international organisations expressed sorrow and condolences to the people of Poland over the crash.

Being fully aware of the importance of the issue for the Polish-Russian relations, the HR/VP has expressed the wish that the ongoing Russian investigation will soon be concluded and the wreckage of the airplane handed over to Poland.

(Wersja polska)

**Pytanie wymagające odpowiedzi pisemnej E-012051/13
do Komisji (Wiceprzewodniczącej/Wysokiej Przedstawiciel)**

Adam Bielan (ECR)
(22 października 2013 r.)

Przedmiot: Wiceprzewodnicząca/Wysoka Przedstawiciel – W związku z wypowiedzią przedstawiciela Rosji przy UE na temat Polski

W rozmowie z rosyjską agencją ITAR-TASS, przedstawiciel Rosji przy Unii Europejskiej Władimir Cziżow miał – według doniesień medialnych – stwierdzić, że wprowadzone przez Moskwę w 2005 r. embargo na polskie mięso doprowadziło do zmiany polskiego rządu. W odniesieniu do obecnej „wojny mlecznej” z Litwą dyplomata miał natomiast otwarcie przyznawać, że Rosjanie w walce politycznej chętnie sięgają po broń, jaką stanowi zakaz importu produktów żywnościowych.

W związku z powyższym zwracam się z prośbą o odpowiedź:

1. Czy Wiceprzewodnicząca/Wysoka Przedstawiciel zna przytoczoną wypowiedź pana Cziżowa na temat Polski i potwierdza, że miała ona miejsce?
2. Czy w opinii Wiceprzewodniczącej/Wysokiej Przedstawiciel nie należałoby za pośrednictwem europejskiej dyplomacji wyrazić publicznego stanowiska w tej kwestii, aby podobne wypowiedzi nie zdarzały się przyszłości?
3. Czy i jak wypowiedzi pana Cziżowa mogą – w opinii Wiceprzewodniczącej/Wysokiej Przedstawiciel – odzwierciedlać obecne, agresywne poczynania kremlowskich władz wobec krajów Partnerstwa Wschodniego oraz krajów Wspólnoty sąsiadujących z Rosją?

**Odpowiedź udzielona przez Wysoką Przedstawiciel/Wiceprzewodniczącą Komisji Catherine Ashton
w imieniu Komisji**
(11 grudnia 2013 r.)

Rosja jest dla UE bardzo ważnym partnerem strategicznym, czego dowodem są głębokie dwustronne stosunki w zakresie handlu i inwestycji. Tym bardziej niepokojące są dla UE liczne nierozwiązane problemy handlowe i celne, obok których w kontekście Partnerstwa Wschodniego pojawiły się ostatnio nowe, w tym obecny rosyjski zakaz przywozu produktów mlecznych z Litwy, która sprawuje obecnie rotacyjną prezydencję w Radzie Unii Europejskiej.

Kwestie te były podnoszone wielokrotnie w rozmowach z rosyjskimi partnerami na różnych szczeblach, w tym z ambasadorem Cziżowem. Wysoka Przedstawiciel/Wiceprzewodnicząca Komisji poruszyła te kwestie podczas spotkania z rosyjskim ministrem spraw zagranicznych Siergiejem Ławrowem we wrześniu 2013 r. Podczas debat w Parlamencie w dniach 11 września i 8 października 2013 r. Komisja jasno stwierdziła, że wykorzystywanie środków ekonomicznych do wywierania politycznej presji jest niedopuszczalne. Szanowny Pan Poseł jest również proszony o zapoznanie się ze wspólnym oświadczeniem przewodniczących Komisji i przewodniczącego Rady Europejskiej z dnia 25 listopada 2013 r.

Komisja bardzo aktywnie poszukuje sposobów na zniesienie tych różnych barier handlowych przez częste konsultacje ze stroną rosyjską. Jeśli to okaże się nieskuteczne, Komisja gotowa jest wykorzystać dostępne mechanizmy wielostronne. UE złożyła na przykład niedawno wniosek o stworzenie panelu orzekającego Światowej Organizacji Handlu (WTO) do zbadania sprawy rosyjskich dyskryminujących opłat za recykling pojazdów.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012051/13
to the Commission (Vice-President/High Representative)**

Adam Bielan (ECR)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: VP/HR — comments by the Russian ambassador to the EU on Poland

According to media reports, Vladimir Chizhov, the Russian ambassador to the European Union, apparently told the Russian news agency ITAR-TASS that the embargo on Polish meat imposed by Moscow in 2005 brought about the fall of the Polish Government. While discussing the current 'milk war' with Lithuania, the diplomat is furthermore said to have openly admitted that Russia is happy to use food import bans as a weapon in political struggles.

I should therefore like to ask the following questions:

1. Is the Vice-President/High Representative familiar with these alleged comments by Mr Chizhov about Poland, and can she confirm that this is in fact what he said?
2. Would the Vice-President/High Representative not agree that European diplomats should issue a public statement on this issue in order to avoid similar comments in the future?
3. In the opinion of the Vice-President/High Representative, is it true that Mr Chizhov's comments may be a reflection of the Kremlin's current aggressive stance towards the countries of the Eastern Partnership and the EU Member States neighbouring Russia, and if so how?

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Ashton on behalf of the Commission

(11 December 2013)

While Russia is a very important strategic partner for the EU, as evidenced by the deep bilateral trade and investment relationship, the EU is very concerned about the significant number of unresolved trade and customs problems, to which new ones have been added recently in the context of the Eastern Partnership, including the current Russian ban on dairy products from Lithuania, which currently holds the rotating Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

These concerns have been raised with Russian counterparts repeatedly and at various levels, including with Ambassador Chizhov. The HR/VP raised these concerns during her meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Lavrov in September 2013. The Commission has stated clearly in Parliament during debates on 11 September 2013 and 8 October 2013 that the use of economic means to exercise political pressure is unacceptable. The Honourable Member is also referred to the joint statement by the Presidents of the Commission and the President of the European Council of 25 November 2013.

The Commission is very actively seeking solutions to these various trade irritants in frequent consultations with Russian counterparts. Where these prove ineffective, the Commission is ready to use available multilateral mechanisms. The EU has, for instance, recently requested the establishment of a World Trade Organisation (WTO) panel to examine the case of discriminatory Russian vehicle recycling fees.

(Versión española)

**Pregunta con solicitud de respuesta escrita E-012053/13
a la Comisión**

Ramon Tremosa i Balcells (ALDE)

(22 de octubre de 2013)

Asunto: Gasto adicional en el submarino S-80

El Ministerio de Industria aportará el año próximo 208,7 millones de euros para corregir el sobrepeso del submarino S-80.

Lo habitual es que este ministerio prefinancie hasta el 60 % de los nuevos programas de armamento, con el argumento de que se trata de subvencionar desarrollos tecnológicos. Sin embargo, dicho departamento ya había desembolsado más de 1 300 millones para el submarino S-80, por lo que estaría agotada casi toda la prefinanciación prevista, lo que ha obligado al Gobierno a aumentarla en más de 800 millones, hasta completar los 2 135 del presupuesto total del programa. Los primeros 208,7 millones se desembolsarán en 2014.

Aún no se sabe cuánto costará subsanar el problema de diseño del S-80. Sí se sabe que la desviación en el peso es de aproximadamente el 7 % del desplazamiento en rosca (sin combustible ni pertrechos), que estaba previsto en 1 700 toneladas ⁽¹⁾.

El Reglamento (UE) n° 473/2013 del Parlamento Europeo y del Consejo, de 21 de mayo de 2013, sobre disposiciones comunes para el seguimiento y la evaluación de los proyectos de planes presupuestarios y para la corrección del déficit excesivo de los Estados miembros de la zona del euro, obliga a la Comisión a emitir una recomendación sobre el presupuesto de los Estados miembros de la zona euro antes del fin del mes de noviembre.

¿Cree la Comisión que este gasto de 208,7 millones es coherente con los objetivos del Pacto de Estabilidad y Crecimiento en un momento en el que el Estado español está bajo el protocolo de déficit excesivo?

¿Ha recibido la Comisión cálculos del impacto fiscal de este gasto según se requiere en el artículo 6 del citado Reglamento?

¿Piensa la Comisión pronunciarse sobre esta partida en su opinión prevista para finales de noviembre?

Respuesta del Sr. Rehn en nombre de la Comisión

(27 de noviembre de 2013)

La Comisión presentó su evaluación sobre el proyecto de plan presupuestario de España el 15 de noviembre de 2013.

Dicho proyecto ⁽²⁾ no contiene información sobre el exceso de peso del submarino S-80. A este respecto, conviene observar que el artículo 6 del Reglamento (UE) n° 473/2013 del Parlamento Europeo y del Consejo, de 21 de mayo de 2013, sobre disposiciones comunes para el seguimiento y la evaluación de los proyectos de planes presupuestarios y para la corrección del déficit excesivo de los Estados miembros de la zona del euro, establece que: «La descripción a que se hace referencia en la letra e) del párrafo primero podrá ser menos detallada para medidas con un impacto presupuestario estimado inferior al 0,1 % del PIB. Se prestará especial atención, de forma explícita, a los planes de reforma sustancial de la política fiscal que puedan tener efectos desbordamiento en otros Estados miembros de la zona del euro».

En las recomendaciones específicas por país dirigidas a España en 2013 se insta a realizar una revisión sistemática de las principales partidas de gasto antes de marzo de 2014.

⁽¹⁾ http://politica.elpais.com/politica/2013/10/13/actualidad/1381689359_105016.html

⁽²⁾ Disponible en: http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/economic_governance/sgp/pdf/dbp/es_2013-10-15_dbp_es.pdf

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012053/13
to the Commission**

Ramon Tremosa i Balcells (ALDE)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Additional cost of S-80 submarine

The Spanish Ministry of Industry will have to spend EUR 208.7 million next year in order to resolve the issue of the S-80 submarine's excess weight.

Under normal circumstances, the ministry provides up to 60% pre-financing for new weapons programmes, on the basis that it is subsidising technological developments. However, it has already spent more than EUR 1.3 billion on the S-80 submarine, almost the full pre-financing budget. The Government must therefore increase this sum by more than EUR 800 million in order to complete the total EUR 2.135 billion budget of the programme. The first 208.7 million will be paid in 2014.

The cost of fixing the S-80 design problem is as yet unknown. We do know that the excess weight is approximately 7% of its lightweight displacement tonnage (without fuel or cargo), which was estimated at 1 700 tonnes ⁽¹⁾.

Regulation (EU) No 473/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2013 on common provisions for monitoring and assessing draft budgetary plans and ensuring the correction of excessive deficit of the Member States in the euro area obliges the Commission to issue a recommendation on the budget of Eurozone Member States before the end of November.

Does the Commission believe that this EUR 208.7 million expenditure is in line with the Stability and Growth Pact at a time when Spain is under the excessive deficit procedure protocol?

Has the Commission received an estimate of the fiscal impact of this spending as required by Article 6 of above Regulation?

Does the Commission intend to address this matter in the opinion due to be issued at the end of November 2013?

Answer given by Mr Rehn on behalf of the Commission

(27 November 2013)

The Commission has issued its assessments of the Draft Budgetary Plan of Spain on 15 November 2013.

The Draft Budgetary Plan ⁽²⁾ does not contain information on S-80 submarine's excess weight. It should be noted in this respect that Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No 473/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2013 on common provisions for monitoring and assessing draft budgetary plans and ensuring the correction of excessive deficit of the Member States in the euro area foresees that 'The description referred to in point (e) of the first subparagraph may be less detailed for measures with a budgetary impact estimated to be lower than 0,1% of GDP. Particular and explicit attention shall be paid to major fiscal policy reform plans with potential spill-over effects for other Member States whose currency is the euro.'

The 2013 country-specific recommendations addressed to Spain contain a recommendation to conduct a systematic review of major spending items by March 2014.

⁽¹⁾ http://politica.elpais.com/politica/2013/10/13/actualidad/1381689359_105016.html

⁽²⁾ Available at : http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/economic_governance/sgp/pdf/dbp/es_2013-10-15_dbp_es.pdf

(Versiunea în limba română)

Întrebarea cu solicitare de răspuns scris E-012055/13
adresată Comisiei
Monica Luisa Macovei (PPE)
(22 octombrie 2013)

Subiect: Furnizorii de internet belgieni impun condiții de domiciliu noilor clienți

Mi s-a adus la cunoștință că Scarlet, un furnizor de internet belgian, refuză să ofere contracte noi clienților potențiali care domiciliază în Belgia de mai puțin de trei luni. Telenet, un alt furnizor belgian, nu oferă contracte persoanelor care au domiciliat în Belgia mai puțin de șase luni.

Această măsură discriminează persoanele care au sosit recent în Belgia sau care au intenția de a locui în această țară.

1. Are Comisia cunoștință de restricțiile impuse de acești doi furnizori de internet?
2. Care sunt măsurile pe care Comisia le va lua pentru introducerea unor reguli care să asigure servicii de internet persoanelor care tocmai au sosit în Belgia?

Răspuns dat de dl Barnier în numele Comisiei
(17 decembrie 2013)

1. Comisia are cunoștință de astfel de restricții impuse de furnizorii de internet. Cu toate acestea, în conformitate cu legislația UE existentă în sectorul serviciilor, Comisia nu poate lua nicio măsură în sprijinul utilizatorilor de servicii internet afectați de aceste practici întrucât articolul 20 alineatul (2) din Directiva 2006/123/CE privind serviciile în cadrul pieței interne ⁽¹⁾, care se referă la nediscriminarea beneficiarilor de servicii pe baza naționalității sau a locului lor de reședință, nu se aplică serviciilor de comunicații electronice [articolul 2 alineatul (2) litera (c)].
2. Obiectivul propunerii recente a Comisiei din 11 septembrie 2013 de Regulament de stabilire a unor măsuri privind piața unică europeană a comunicațiilor electronice și de realizare a unui continent conectat ⁽²⁾ este de a asigura, printre altele, dreptul utilizatorilor finali și al întreprinderilor „de a accesa servicii de comunicații electronice competitive, sigure și fiabile, indiferent de locul din Uniune din care sunt furnizate, fără să fie împiedicați de restricții transfrontaliere sau de costuri suplimentare nejustificate”. Propunerea conține o serie de măsuri și de dispoziții specifice pentru a atinge aceste obiective și, în special, o interdicție pentru furnizorii de servicii de comunicații electronice pentru public de a aplica „cerințe sau condiții de acces sau de utilizare discriminatorii, pe baza naționalității sau a locului de reședință al utilizatorului final”, cu excepția cazului în care astfel de diferențe sunt justificate în mod obiectiv de diferențe în ceea ce privește costurile, riscurile și condițiile de piață.

⁽¹⁾ Directiva 2006/123/CE a Parlamentului European și a Consiliului din 12 decembrie 2006 privind serviciile în cadrul pieței interne (JO L 376, 27.12.2006, p. 36).

⁽²⁾ COM(2013)627.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012055/13
to the Commission**

Monica Luisa Macovei (PPE)

(22 October 2013)

Subject: Belgian Internet providers imposing residence conditions on new clients

It has been brought to my attention that Scarlet, a Belgian Internet provider, refuses to open new contracts for prospective customers who have been resident in Belgium for less than three months. Telenet, another Belgian provider, does not open contracts for persons who have been resident in Belgium for less than six months.

This is a measure which discriminates against people who have recently arrived in Belgium or who plan to live in Belgium.

1. Is the Commission aware of the restrictions imposed by these two Internet providers?
2. What action will the Commission take to introduce rules ensuring access to Internet services for persons who have just arrived in Belgium?

Answer given by Mr Barnier on behalf of the Commission

(17 December 2013)

1. The Commission is aware of such restrictions imposed by Internet providers. However, in accordance with the existing EU legislation in the services sector, there is no possibility for the Commission to take action in favour of the Internet users affected by these practices, as Article 20(2) of Directive 2006/123/EC on services in the internal market ⁽¹⁾, referring to the non-discrimination of service recipients on the basis of their nationality or residence, is not applicable to electronic communication services (Article 2(2)(c)).
2. The recent Commission proposal of 11 September 2013 for a regulation laying down measures concerning the European single market for electronic communications and to achieve a Connected Continent ⁽²⁾ aims at ensuring, *inter alia*, the right of end-users and businesses 'to access competitive, secure and reliable electronic communications services, irrespective of where they are provided from in the Union, without being hampered by cross-border restrictions or unjustified additional costs'. The proposal contains a number of measures and specific provisions to achieve these objectives and, in particular, a prohibition on providers of electronic communications to the public to apply 'any discriminatory requirements or conditions of access or use to end-users based on the end-user's nationality or place of residence' unless such differences are objectively justified by differences in costs, risks and market conditions.

⁽¹⁾ Directive 2006/123/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on Services in the internal market, OJ L376 of 27.12.2006, p. 36.

⁽²⁾ COM(2013) 627.

(Versione italiana)

Interrogazione con richiesta di risposta scritta E-012056/13
alla Commissione
Salvatore Tatarella (PPE)
(22 ottobre 2013)

Oggetto: Gestione del fondo salva Stati

Secondo alcune fonti di stampa, «per come è stata strutturata la risposta all'eurocrisi, i contribuenti tedeschi stanno ricevendo un sussidio silenzioso da parte di quelli italiani». Il meccanismo europeo di stabilità (MES) ha una forza di fuoco di 700 miliardi di euro, raccolti in gran parte emettendo bond sui mercati. La sua base però è il capitale versato direttamente dai governi dell'area euro. La settimana scorsa hanno tutti trasferito la quarta tranche, per un totale di 64 miliardi di euro, ed entro la prima metà del 2014 si arriverà a ottanta. La Germania, che con una quota del 27,14 % è il primo azionista, ha già pagato al fondo europeo 17,3 miliardi e alla fine dovrà versarne 21,7. L'Italia, che è il terzo azionista con il 17,91 %, ha versato 11,4 miliardi e nel 2014 saranno 14,3. Tali risorse versate dal governo italiano, se fossero rimaste in Italia, probabilmente sarebbero state sufficienti a gestire i problemi delle banche nazionali. Per ora, però, delle risorse del MES si fa un uso diverso: vengono investite prevalentemente in titoli di Stato tedeschi. Ciò contribuisce, con i soldi dei contribuenti italiani, a ridurre i tassi sui Bund e su tutto il sistema finanziario in Germania, quindi ad allargare lo spread e lo svantaggio competitivo delle imprese italiane. Il MES non comunica in dettaglio come gestisce il capitale affidatogli, ma i criteri sono chiari: non può comprare titoli con rating sotto «la doppia A» (dunque Italia e Spagna fuori) e compra «attività liquide di alta qualità», dunque certamente Bund tedeschi.

Alla luce di quanto precede, può la Commissione riferire:

1. se conferma che le nazioni del sud Europa stanno aiutando la Germania, senza poter utilizzare le risorse del MES per sostenere le proprie banche;
2. se non ritiene necessario un correttivo che impedisca questa paradossale situazione;
3. se non reputa necessario che la gestione del MES debba essere più trasparente?

Risposta di Olli Rehn a nome della Commissione
(3 dicembre 2013)

Il meccanismo europeo di stabilità (MES) disporrà di un capitale versato di 80 miliardi di EUR e di un capitale richiamabile di 620 miliardi di EUR, e avrà pertanto una capacità di prestito di 500 miliardi di EUR.

Il MES costituisce una protezione importante contro la crisi: il sostegno finanziario del MES può essere chiesto da tutti i suoi membri. La Spagna e Cipro hanno già beneficiato dell'assistenza finanziaria del MES.

L'articolo 22 del trattato MES stabilisce che «Il direttore generale attua una politica di investimento del MES improntata al principio di prudenza atta a garantire la sua massima affidabilità creditizia, conformemente alle direttive adottate dal consiglio di amministrazione e da questo periodicamente riesaminate.» La Commissione non dispone di informazioni circa gli investimenti attuali del MES.

I rendimenti dei titoli di Stato tedeschi sono in effetti molto bassi rispetto a quelli di altri Stati membri dell'UE. Uno dei motivi risiede nel fatto che, al pari di altri Stati membri dell'UE, la Germania beneficia del suo status di luogo sicuro per gli investimenti.

Il MES è un'istituzione internazionale responsabile nei confronti dei suoi membri. Esso è gestito da un consiglio dei governatori e da un consiglio di amministrazione. Ogni membro del MES nomina un governatore e un governatore supplente. Ogni governatore nomina un amministratore e un amministratore supplente. Le competenze di questi organi e le norme sulla procedura decisionale sono specificate nel trattato MES.

(English version)

Question for written answer E-012056/13
to the Commission
Salvatore Tatarella (PPE)
(22 October 2013)

Subject: Management of the ESM bailout fund

According to press reports, because of the way that the response to the eurozone crisis has been structured, Italian taxpayers are effectively subsidising their German counterparts. The European Stability Mechanism (ESM) has a lending capacity of EUR 700 billion, which it funds primarily by issuing bonds. Its paid-in capital, however, is made up of the contributions it receives directly from eurozone governments. The latter recently transferred the fourth tranche of funding for the ESM, bringing the total to EUR 64 billion, a figure which will have climbed to EUR 80 billion by the first half of 2014. Germany is the main contributor (providing 27.14% of its capital) and has already transferred EUR 17.3 billion of the EUR 21.7 billion it has pledged. Italy, the third largest contributor (17.91%), has transferred EUR 11.4 billion of what will ultimately be a total of EUR 14.3 billion in 2014. If these monies had remained in Italy, they would probably have been sufficient to tackle the problems facing the Italian banks. For the time being, however, ESM funds are being invested primarily in German Government bonds. This means that Italian taxpayers' money is helping to push down the interest rates on German Government bonds and in the German financial system as a whole. In turn, this is widening the spread between interest rates and making Italian businesses less and less competitive. The ESM does not release details of the way it manages the capital it raises, but the criteria are clear: it cannot purchase bonds with a rating lower than AA (which rules out Italy and Spain) and must invest in only 'high-quality liquid assets' (i.e. German bonds).

1. Can the Commission say whether money from southern European countries is being used to help Germany, with the result that these countries are unable to use ESM funds to prop up their own banks?
2. Does it not think that new arrangements are needed to rule out paradoxical situations of this kind?
3. Does it agree that the management of the ESM should be more transparent?

Answer given by Mr Rehn on behalf of the Commission
(3 December 2013)

The European Stability Mechanism (ESM) will have a paid-in capital of EUR 80 billion and a callable capital of EUR 620 billion, resulting in a lending capacity of EUR 500 billion.

The ESM is an important firewall against the crisis; financial support from the ESM can be requested by all its members. Spain and Cyprus already benefitted from ESM financial assistance.

Article 22 of the ESM Treaty stipulates that 'the Managing Director shall implement a prudent investment policy for the ESM, so as to ensure its highest creditworthiness, in accordance with guidelines to be adopted and reviewed regularly by the Board of Directors. ...'. The Commission does not have information about the current investment holdings of the ESM.

The yields for German bonds are indeed very low compared to other EU Member States. Among other reasons, some EU Member States, and in particular Germany, benefitted from their status as safe haven investment location.

The ESM is an international institution accountable to its members. The ESM is run by a Board of Governors and a Board of Directors. Each ESM member shall appoint a Governor and an alternate Governor. Each Governor shall appoint one Director and one alternate Director. The competences of these bodies and the decision making rules are specified by the ESM Treaty.

(Versione italiana)

**Interrogazione con richiesta di risposta scritta E-012058/13
alla Commissione
Mara Bizzotto (EFD)
(22 ottobre 2013)**

Oggetto: Kit per la fabbricazione di falsi formaggi italiani in vendita on-line

Sulle maggiori piattaforme di compravendita on-line, tra le quali Amazon e Ebay, sono in vendita kit per la produzione «fai da te» di alcuni fra i più famosi formaggi italiani: Mozzarella, Ricotta, Parmigiano Reggiano e Pecorino romano.

Nei kit, commercializzati anche da un'azienda inglese, si trovano i recipienti e le polveri che, combinate con il latte, permetterebbero di ottenere, in soli 30 minuti, mozzarella o, aspettando 2 mesi per la stagionatura, altri formaggi italiani.

Preso atto che si tratta chiaramente di una pratica di contraffazione che, sfruttando il fenomeno dell'*Italian Sounding*, permette di realizzare dei surrogati che imitano prodotti tutelati da denominazioni DOP e IGP, creando un gravissimo danno economico e di immagine a un settore già fortemente colpito dalla contraffazione nonché tutelato dalla normativa europea quale il regolamento (CEE) n. 2081/92 del Consiglio del 14 luglio 1992, e considerato che questo fenomeno colpisce i consumatori che vengono tratti in inganno e indotti all'acquisto esponendosi a potenziali rischi per la salute;

può la Commissione riferire:

1. se è al corrente dei fatti sopra descritti;
2. come intende agire per tutelare i caseifici, i consorzi e tutti i produttori italiani dalla concorrenza sleale e dai danni arrecati dalla vendita di tali kit;
3. come intende tutelare i consumatori europei da un'offerta ingannevole; se ritiene che vi sia un potenziale rischio per la salute dei cittadini che usano questi prodotti e, in caso affermativo, come interverrà;
4. se intende vietare definitivamente la commercializzazione di kit che, attraverso la sintesi di polveri chimiche, potenzialmente dannose per la salute, permettono di riprodurre prodotti alimentari tradizionalmente ottenuti dalla lavorazione di materie prime fresche e di qualità?

**Risposta di Tonio Borg a nome della Commissione
(9 dicembre 2013)**

La Commissione è al corrente dell'esistenza di kit per la fabbricazione di determinati formaggi.

La normativa UE prevede che, quando la denominazione di un formaggio è registrata come denominazione di origine protetta (DOP) (come nel caso del Parmigiano Reggiano e del Pecorino Romano) o come indicazione geografica protetta (IGP) a norma del regolamento (UE) n. 1151/2012⁽¹⁾, tale denominazione è protetta da qualsiasi impiego commerciale diretto o indiretto dei prodotti che non sono oggetto di registrazione, qualora questi ultimi siano comparabili ai prodotti registrati con tale nome o l'uso di tale nome consenta di sfruttare la notorietà della denominazione protetta. Una DOP o IGP registrata è protetta anche da qualsiasi usurpazione, imitazione o evocazione; da qualsiasi altra indicazione falsa o ingannevole relativa alla provenienza, all'origine, alla natura o alle qualità essenziali del prodotto usata sulla confezione o sull'imballaggio, nel materiale pubblicitario o sui documenti relativi al prodotto considerato; e da qualsiasi altra pratica che possa indurre in errore il consumatore sulla vera origine del prodotto.

Inoltre, l'articolo 114 e all'allegato XII del regolamento (CE) n. 1234/2007⁽²⁾ stabiliscono che i prodotti destinati all'alimentazione umana possono essere commercializzati come latte e prodotti lattiero-caseari solo se ottenuti esclusivamente da latte. Possono essere aggiunte sostanze necessarie per la loro fabbricazione, ma solo a patto che non siano utilizzate per sostituire totalmente o parzialmente uno qualsiasi dei componenti del latte.

⁽¹⁾ GUL 343 del 14.12.2012, pag. 1.

⁽²⁾ GUL 299 del 16.11.2007, pag. 1.

Va rilevato che la responsabilità di far rispettare la suddetta normativa UE relativa alla catena alimentare spetta agli Stati membri, i quali sono tenuti a verificare la conformità da parte degli operatori ai requisiti da essa derivanti. Gli Stati membri devono inoltre prendere le dovute misure per eliminare i rischi e sanzionare le inosservanze. La Commissione verificherà certamente che gli Stati membri facciano effettivamente applicare la normativa.

(English version)

Question for written answer E-012058/13
to the Commission
Mara Bizzotto (EFD)
(22 October 2013)

Subject: Online sale of kits for producing fake Italian cheeses

Large online retailers, such as Amazon and Ebay, are selling kits for the home production of some of the best-known Italian cheeses, including Mozzarella, Ricotta, Parmigiano Reggiano and Pecorino romano.

The kits, which are sold by an English company, include containers and powder, which, when mixed with milk, produces mozzarella in just 30 minutes, or other kinds of Italian cheese if left to mature for two months.

This is clearly a counterfeit practice, which takes advantage of Italian names to copy Italian products that are protected by PDO and PGI denominations and is seriously damaging both to the Italian economy and to the image of a sector which has already been hit hard by counterfeiting despite the fact that it is protected by EC law under Council Regulation (ECC) No 2081/92 of 14 July 1992. This problem affects consumers who are being misled and induced to purchase products that could be potentially harmful to their health.

1. Can the Commission say if it is aware of the abovementioned issue?
2. What steps does it intend to take to protect dairies, farmers and all Italian cheese producers from unfair competition and the damage caused by the sale of these kits?
3. How does it intend to protect EU consumers against misleading offers? Does the Commission consider there to be a potential risk to the health of consumers buying these products and if so, what action will it take?
4. Does it intend to definitively ban the sale of these kits which, through the mixing of chemical powders that are potentially harmful to health, produce food stuffs that are usually made using fresh, high-quality raw materials?

Answer given by Mr Borg on behalf of the Commission
(9 December 2013)

The Commission is aware of the existence of kits for the production of certain cheeses.

EU legislation provides that where a cheese name is registered as a protected designation of origin (PDO) (as is the case for Parmigiano Reggiano and Pecorino Romano) or as a protected geographical indication (PGI) under Regulation (EU) Nr. 1151/2012⁽¹⁾, it is protected against any direct or indirect commercial use in respect of products not covered by the registration where those products are comparable to the products registered under that name or where using the name exploits the reputation of the protected name. A registered PDO or PGI is also protected against any misuse, imitation or evocation; any other false or misleading indication as to the provenance, origin, nature or essential qualities of the product that is used on the inner or outer packaging, advertising material or documents relating to the product concerned; and any other practice liable to mislead the consumer as to the true origin of the product.

Moreover, Article 114 and Annex XII of Regulation (EC) 1234/2007⁽²⁾ provide that foodstuffs intended for human consumption may be marketed as milk products only if they are derived exclusively from milk. Substances necessary for their manufacture may be added but they cannot be used for the purpose of replacing any milk constituent.

It should be recalled that the responsibility for enforcing the abovementioned EU food chain legislation lies with Member States which are required to verify that requirements deriving therefrom are fulfilled by operators. Member States must also take measures necessary to eliminate risks and sanction non-compliances. The Commission will of course monitor the delivery by the Member States of their enforcement duties.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 299, 16.11.2007, p. 1.

(English version)

**Question for written answer P-012059/13
to the Commission
Struan Stevenson (ECR)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: European mountain quality label

The Commission is about to approve delegated legislation confirming the designation of a European mountain quality label.

The delegated act provides for a change to the rule established in the basic regulation which would authorise, by default, the denomination as mountain products of processed dairy products (milk and cheese) made within 30 km of mountain areas, without the need for any justifying criteria. Many Member States, industry and the advisory group on quality believed that no derogation should be granted by default and that, instead, national authorities should have the right to grant derogations in duly justified cases.

Can the Commission therefore explain why it should press ahead with this damaging act despite such broad opposition?

**Answer given by Mr Cioloş on behalf of the Commission
(13 November 2013)**

In duly justified cases and in order to take into account natural constraints affecting agricultural production in mountain areas, Article 31 (3) of the regulation (EU) No 1151/2012 on quality schemes for agricultural products and foodstuffs⁽¹⁾ empowers the Commission to lay down derogations from the condition that processing of 'mountain products' must take place in mountain areas. The same Article also empowers the Commission to define the geographical area in which the processing of products is permitted outside of the mountain areas. The regulation does not provide for a right of national authorities to grant the derogations.

The Commission services are currently considering a Commission Delegated Regulation with derogations regarding the conditions of use of the optional quality term 'mountain product'. For that purpose extensive consultation has been carried out including consultation of Member States' experts as well as stakeholders in accordance with the Commission's commitments⁽²⁾ and long-standing practice.

The Commission is now reflecting on the outcome of these consultations to finalise a possible delegated act on mountain farming.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 343, 14.12.2012, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council, COM(2009) 673 final, Implementation of Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Brussels, 9.12.2009.

(Versión española)

**Pregunta con solicitud de respuesta escrita E-012061/13
a la Comisión**

Salvador Sedó i Alabart (PPE)

(23 de octubre de 2013)

Asunto: La realidad del desempleo juvenil en Europa

La crisis económica en Europa está castigando a muchos sectores de la sociedad y en muchos Estados miembros el denominador común es el desempleo entre jóvenes, que afecta al 23 % en toda Europa. La falta de oportunidades en los países más castigados por la crisis, como es el caso de España, y sobre todo en algunas regiones como Cataluña, ha obligado a muchos jóvenes altamente cualificados a una movilidad laboral forzada (incluso fuera de Europa) en busca de mejores oportunidades laborales. El pasado mes de septiembre en Estrasburgo, se volvió a insistir en la importancia de cómo combatir el desempleo juvenil.

Teniendo en cuenta que el presupuesto asignado (6 000 millones de euros dentro de la Estrategia de la UE para la Juventud para el periodo 2010-2018) es insuficiente y que de cara a las elecciones de 2014 los jóvenes tendrán un importante papel,

1. ¿Cómo pretende la Comisión motivar a los jóvenes desempleados cualificados?
2. ¿Qué medidas inmediatas considera la Comisión que deben llevarse a cabo para que los jóvenes participen en las próximas elecciones de 2014, teniendo en cuenta el alto grado de desmotivación y frustración?
3. ¿Cómo se comprometerá la Comisión a erradicar el empleo juvenil precario y a fomentar la contratación, sobre todo en las regiones en que no existe tanta oferta laboral?

Respuesta del Sr. Andor en nombre de la Comisión

(6 de diciembre de 2013)

La aplicación de la Garantía Juvenil ⁽¹⁾ constituye una de las máximas prioridades de la Comisión. Los Estados miembros con regiones en las que la tasa de desempleo juvenil supera el 25 % deben presentar un Plan de Aplicación de la Garantía Juvenil a más tardar en diciembre de 2013; el resto de los Estados miembros debe hacerlo en 2014. La Comisión presta apoyo técnico al respecto. Por lo que respecta a la financiación, los presupuestos nacionales deberían dar prioridad a las cuestiones que afectan a los jóvenes a fin de evitar costes mayores en el futuro. También es posible obtener apoyo de los Fondos Estructurales de la UE y, en particular, del Fondo Social Europeo y de la Iniciativa sobre Empleo Juvenil, que cuenta con un presupuesto de 6 000 millones de euros.

La participación de los jóvenes en el proceso democrático constituye una prioridad fundamental de la estrategia de la UE para la juventud y fue el tema principal de la Semana Europea de la Juventud 2013. Con motivo de dicho evento se publicó un estudio que ponía de relieve que los jóvenes se interesan por las cuestiones políticas que les afectan y están dispuestos a participar en ellas. Sin embargo, existe un claro y creciente descontento respecto a la forma de hacer política, y los jóvenes consideran que no están suficientemente representados. Uno de los objetivos anuales fundamentales del programa «La juventud en acción» en 2013 han sido los proyectos encaminados a fomentar la participación en las elecciones europeas de 2014 ⁽²⁾.

Una de las medidas adoptadas por la Comisión para luchar contra el desempleo consiste en estimular la demanda laboral ⁽³⁾, tal como se describe en particular en el paquete sobre empleo de abril de 2012 ⁽⁴⁾. Esta medida también forma parte de la Recomendación del Consejo sobre el establecimiento de la Garantía Juvenil.

⁽¹⁾ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2013:120:0001:0006:ES:PDF>

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/youth/policy/evidence-based_en.htm

⁽³⁾ Por ejemplo, subvencionando la contratación específica, reduciendo la fiscalidad del trabajo, estimulando el emprendimiento y el empleo por cuenta propia, convirtiendo el trabajo informal o no declarado en trabajo regular y mejorando el salario neto.

⁽⁴⁾ COM(2012) 173 final de 18.4.2012.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012061/13
to the Commission**

Salvador Sedó i Alabart (PPE)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: The reality of youth unemployment in Europe

The economic crisis in Europe is punishing many sectors of society and in many Member States the common denominator is youth unemployment, which affects 23% throughout Europe. The lack of opportunities in the countries hardest hit by the crisis, like Spain, and particularly in certain regions, such as Catalonia, has meant that many well qualified young people have had to resort to forced labour mobility (even outside of Europe) in search of better employment opportunities. In September 2013, the importance of how to combat youth unemployment was highlighted once again in Strasbourg.

Given that the allocated budget (EUR 6 billion under the EU Youth Strategy 2010-2018) is not enough and that young people will have an important role to play in the 2014 elections,

1. How does the Commission plan to motivate qualified young people who are unemployed?
2. What immediate measures does the Commission think should be taken so that young people participate in the forthcoming elections in 2014, bearing in mind that they are highly demotivated and frustrated?
3. How will the Commission undertake to eradicate unstable youth employment and encourage recruitment, particularly in regions where there is a lower supply of labour?

Answer given by Mr Andor on behalf of the Commission

(6 December 2013)

The implementation of the Youth Guarantee ⁽¹⁾ is a top priority for the Commission. Member States with regions experiencing youth unemployment rates above 25% should submit a Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan by December 2013 and in 2014 for the other Member States. The Commission is providing technical support in this regard. As regards funding, national budgets should prioritise youth to avoid higher costs in the future. In addition, the EU Structural Funds and in particular the European Social Fund and the dedicated EUR 6 billion Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) can provide support.

Participation of young people in democratic life is a key priority of the EU Youth Strategy, it was the main theme of the 2013 European Youth Week. On this occasion, a study was released, highlighting that young people are interested in political issues that concern them and willing to contribute. However, there is a clear and growing dissatisfaction with the way politics is conducted and young people feel insufficiently represented. The Youth in Action programme in 2013 has put as one of its annual priorities projects aimed at encouraging participation in the 2014 European elections. ⁽²⁾

Encouraging labour demand ⁽³⁾ is part of the Commission's efforts to combat unemployment, as described in particular in the Employment Package of April 2012 ⁽⁴⁾. It is also part of the Council Recommendation on Establishing a Youth Guarantee.

⁽¹⁾ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2013:120:0001:0006:EN:PDF>

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/youth/policy/evidence-based_en.htm

⁽³⁾ e.g. through targeted hiring subsidies, reducing labour taxation, promoting entrepreneurship and self-employment, conversion of informal or undeclared work into regular employment, boosting take home pay.

⁽⁴⁾ COM(2012) 173 final of 18 April 2012.

(Deutsche Fassung)

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012063/13
an die Kommission**

Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)

(23. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Fehlende Filter in Flaggenfabrik

In Österreich gibt es eine Fabrik, die unter anderem Flaggen erzeugt und die dabei ohne Filter arbeiten soll. Umliegende Bewohner und Bewohnerinnen erfahren so einen relevant verringerten Lebenswert auf ihren Liegenschaften, in einigen Fällen eine Minderung des Wertes der Grundstücke und eine direkte Bedrohung ihrer Umwelt. Sie haben zudem mit gesundheitlichen Beeinträchtigungen zu rechnen, nachdem es für Schadstoffe erst angeblich keine geltenden Grenzwerte geben soll und später widersprüchliche Aussagen diesbezüglich gemacht wurden.

Ist dieser Umstand der Kommission bekannt? Wenn ja: Welche Schritte und Maßnahmen gedenkt sie einzuleiten, um die Bewohner und Bewohnerinnen wie auch die Umwelt angemessen zu schützen?

Zudem soll der direkt anliegende Betriebskindergarten besagten Unternehmens mit EU-Mitteln gefördert worden sein.

Wie erklärt die Kommission, dass für eine Kindertageseinrichtung, in welcher aufgrund der eingangs beschriebenen Umstände ernst zu nehmende gesundheitliche Probleme zu erwarten sind, in der Tat europäische Fördermittel vergeben werden?

Antwort von Johannes Hahn im Namen der Kommission

(6. Januar 2014)

Der Kommission war dieser Sachverhalt vor dem Erhalt der schriftlichen Anfrage nicht bewusst. Bei Tätigkeiten, die nicht unter die einschlägigen EU-Richtlinien⁽¹⁾ fallen, müssen die zuständigen nationalen Behörden sicherstellen, dass die geltenden nationalen Rechtsvorschriften eingehalten werden.

Die nationalen Behörden bestätigten, dass der neben der Fabrik liegende Betriebskindergarten im Zeitraum 2000-2006 aus dem Europäischen Fonds für regionale Entwicklung (EFRE) gefördert wurde. Mit dem Betriebskindergarten sollen den im Unternehmen angestellten Frauen Betreuungsmöglichkeiten zur Verfügung gestellt werden, insbesondere für Kinder, die keinen Zugang zu öffentlichen — in dem betroffenen ländlichen Gebiet stark nachgefragten — Betreuungseinrichtungen haben.

Gemäß dem Grundsatz der geteilten Mittelverwaltung in der Kohäsionspolitik und den in den Programmunterlagen festgelegten Auswahlkriterien entscheiden allein die Mitgliedstaaten darüber, welche Projekte aus dem EFRE unterstützt werden. Die ausführlichen Projektunterlagen, die die nationalen Behörden der Kommission inzwischen vorgelegt haben, enthalten keinen Hinweis auf ein mögliches Risiko. Die Kommission kann daher nicht beurteilen, ob den Behörden zum Zeitpunkt der Entscheidung über die Finanzierung des Projekts die potenziellen gesundheitlichen Risiken bereits bekannt waren.

⁽¹⁾ Die Richtlinie 2008/1/EG über die integrierte Vermeidung und Verminderung der Umweltverschmutzung (IVU-Richtlinie) deckt die in Anhang I aufgelisteten industriellen Tätigkeiten (gegebenenfalls oberhalb der Kapazitätsschwellenwerte) ab. Laut dieser Richtlinie ist der Betrieb einer Anlage an die Erteilung einer Genehmigung gebunden, in der BVT-basierte Emissionsgrenzwerte vorgegeben sind, um Emissionen in und Auswirkungen auf die gesamte Umwelt allgemein zu vermeiden oder, wenn dies nicht möglich ist, zu vermindern. Diese Richtlinie wird am 7. Januar 2014 durch die Richtlinie 2010/75/EU über Industrieemissionen ersetzt.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012063/13
to the Commission**

Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Lack of filters in flag factory

There is a factory in Austria that produces flags, among other things, and in doing so is said to operate without filters. Residents in the surrounding area thus experience an associated reduction in quality of life on their properties and, in some cases, a reduction in the value of their land and a direct threat to their environment. They can also expect health problems, since it was initially claimed that there were, allegedly, no limit values for the pollutants, and then later contradictory statements were made in this regard.

Is the Commission aware of this situation? If so, what steps and measures does it intend to take to provide adequate protection for the residents and the environment?

In addition, the company kindergarten immediately adjacent to this factory is said to be supported by EU funds.

How does the Commission explain the fact that a kindergarten establishment in which significant health problems are to be expected on account of the circumstances described above, is in fact receiving European funding?

Answer given by Mr Hahn on behalf of the Commission

(6 January 2014)

The Commission was not aware of the situation prior to receiving the question. For activities not falling under the relevant EU directive(s) ⁽¹⁾, it is up to the competent national authorities to ensure that the applicable national legislation is complied with.

The national authorities confirmed that the company kindergarten adjacent to the factory received support from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) in the 2000-2006 period. Its purpose was to offer a childcare service to women employed in the company, and in particular to those children not covered by public childcare services, for which there was strong demand in the rural area concerned.

In accordance with the principle of shared programme management of cohesion policy and the selection criteria laid down in programme documents, decisions on funding individual projects by the ERDF are solely taken by national authorities. The extensive project documentation which the national authorities have now made available to the Commission does not contain any reference to any potential risk. Therefore, the Commission is unable to assess whether potential health problems were known to the authorities when the decision on the funding of the project was taken.

⁽¹⁾ Directive 2008/1/EC concerning integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC) covers industrial activities listed in its Annex I, operating above the capacity threshold, where applicable. It requires installations to operate in accordance with permits including emission limit values based on the best available techniques, designed to prevent and, where that is not practicable, generally to reduce emissions and the impact on the environment as a whole. The IPPC Directive will be replaced and repealed from 7 January 2014 by Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions.

(Deutsche Fassung)

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012064/13
an die Kommission
Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)
(23. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Frauen und Altersarmut

Medienberichten zufolge sind in Deutschland immer mehr Menschen auch im Alter auf eine Mindestsicherung angewiesen. Diese Meldungen stehen im Gegensatz zu Tendenzen, die die Kommission in ihrer Antwort auf die Anfrage E-002240/2013 hinsichtlich einer sinkenden Armutsgefährdungsquote erwähnt hat.

1. Davon ausgehend, dass die Tendenzen wahrscheinlich nicht nur für Deutschland gelten: Welche konkreten Ansätze hat die Europäische Innovationspartnerschaft „Aktivität und Gesundheit im Alter“, um diesem offensichtlich erneuten Anstieg der Altersarmut entgegenzuwirken?
2. Welche Strategien hat die Kommission entwickelt, um besonders die Situation von Frauen, die im Durchschnitt im Alter noch mehr von Armut betroffen sind, zu verbessern?

**Antwort von László Andor im Namen der Kommission
(16. Dezember 2013)**

1. Da die Europäische Innovationspartnerschaft „Aktivität und Gesundheit im Alter“⁽¹⁾ sich nicht mit dem Problem der Altersarmut befasst, sind keine speziellen Initiativen geplant oder vorgesehen.
2. Ziel der Strategie für die Gleichstellung von Frauen und Männern 2010-2015 ist eine weiter gehende Gleichstellung von Frauen und Männern auf den Arbeitsmärkten. Ganz oben auf der Prioritätenliste stehen die gleiche wirtschaftliche Unabhängigkeit und gleiches Entgelt für gleiche und gleichwertige Arbeit.

Mehr Gleichheit bei den Renten- und Pensionsbezügen wird auch im Weißbuch zu Pensionen und Renten⁽²⁾ und im Jahreswachstumsbericht (2014)⁽³⁾ als Ziel genannt.

In einer neueren Studie über das geschlechterspezifische Gefälle bei den Altersbezügen⁽⁴⁾ wurden die wichtigsten Ursachen untersucht und Möglichkeiten dargelegt, wie geschlechterspezifische Unterschiede bei den Renten- und Pensionsansprüchen gemessen und verglichen werden können. Im Bericht zur Angemessenheit der Renten- und Pensionshöhe⁽⁵⁾ wird unterstrichen, wie Garantie- und Mindestrenten sowie Gutschriften zur Kompensation von Erwerbsunterbrechungen wegen Mutterschaft und Kinderbetreuung in Verbindung mit abgeleiteten Renten-/Pensionsansprüchen und Witwenrenten derzeit einen Teil der gegenwärtig niedrigeren Renten- und Pensionsbezüge von Frauen auffangen. Darin wird jedoch auch betont, dass eine weiter gehende Gleichstellung von Frauen und Männern auf den Arbeitsmärkten und bei der privaten Rentenversicherung weiterhin den wichtigsten Faktor zur Verringerung des geschlechterspezifischen Renten- und Pensionsgefälles darstellt.

Da ein niedrigeres Renteneintrittsalter zu einem höheren Risiko der Altersarmut bei Frauen führen kann, hat die Kommission im Europäischen Semester⁽⁶⁾ empfohlen, das Renteneintrittsalter von Frauen und Männern anzugleichen. Geringere Rentenansprüche infolge von niedrigerem Arbeitsentgelt, weniger Arbeitsstunden und kürzeren Lebensarbeitszeiten waren auch Thema in den länderspezifischen Empfehlungen⁽⁷⁾, die sich schwerpunktmäßig auf die Beseitigung von Beschäftigungshindernissen für Frauen durch Zugang zu erschwinglichen Kinderbetreuungseinrichtungen und die Bekämpfung der geschlechterspezifischen Unterschiede bei Arbeitsentgelt, Renten und Pensionen konzentrierten.

⁽¹⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm?section=active-healthy-ageing

⁽²⁾ Weißbuch: Eine Agenda für angemessene, sichere und nachhaltige Pensionen und Renten, KOM(2012)55: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=7341&langId=de>

⁽³⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/making-it-happen/annual-growth-surveys/index_en.htm

⁽⁴⁾ Europäisches Netz von Experten für die Gleichstellung von Männern und Frauen: „The Gender Gap in Pensions in the EU“, GD JUST 2013: http://ec.europa.eu/justice/gender-equality/files/documents/130530_pensions_en.pdf

⁽⁵⁾ Pension Adequacy in the European Union 2010-2050: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=7805&langId=en>

⁽⁶⁾ Europäisches Semester: Länderspezifische Empfehlungen: Europa aus der Krise führen, KOM(2013)350 endg.: http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/making-it-happen/country-specific-recommendations/index_de.htm

⁽⁷⁾ Siehe Fußnote 1.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012064/13
to the Commission**

Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Women and poverty in old age

According to media reports, more and more people in Germany have to survive on a minimum income even in their old age. These reports contradict the trends that the Commission referred to in its answer to Question E-002240/2013 in respect of a decreasing proportion of people at risk of poverty.

1. Assuming that these trends probably do not just apply to Germany, what specific initiatives does the European Innovation Partnership on Healthy and Active Ageing have planned to counteract this apparent renewed increase in poverty in old age?
2. What strategies has the Commission developed in order to improve the situation of women in particular, who are, on average, affected to a greater extent by poverty in old age?

Answer given by Mr Andor on behalf of the Commission

(16 December 2013)

1. As the European Innovation Partnership on Healthy and Active Ageing ⁽¹⁾ does not address poverty problems in old age no specific initiatives are planned or foreseen.
2. Greater gender equality in labour markets is a key aim of the strategy for equality between women and men 2010-2015. Its two first priorities are equal economic independence and equal pay for equal work and work of equal value.

The White Paper on Pensions ⁽²⁾ and the Annual Growth Survey (2014) ⁽³⁾ emphasise the objective of greater equality in pension outcomes.

A recent study of the Gender Pension Gap ⁽⁴⁾ has examined its key drivers and set out how gender differences in pension entitlements can be measured and compared. The Pension Adequacy Report ⁽⁵⁾ highlights how guarantee and minimum pensions and credits for labour market absence due to maternity and childcare along with derived pension rights and survivors' pensions currently mitigate the effect of women earning lower pension entitlements. But it also emphasises that greater gender equality in labour markets and in private pension coverage remains the main route to reductions in the gender pension gap.

As lower pensionable ages may cause higher old age poverty risk for women the Commission in the European Semester ⁽⁶⁾ has recommended to equalise the pension age for women with that of men. Lower pension entitlements resulting from the lower pay, fewer working hours and shorter careers of women have also been addressed through Country Specific Recommendations ⁽⁷⁾ focused on removing barriers to female employment through access to affordable care and on tackling the gender pay and pension gap.

⁽¹⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm?section=active-healthy-ageing

⁽²⁾ White Paper: An Agenda for Adequate, Safe and Sustainable Pensions, COM(2012) 55 final: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=7341&langId=en>

⁽³⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/making-it-happen/annual-growth-surveys/index_en.htm

⁽⁴⁾ European Network of Experts on Gender Equality: 'The Gender Gap in Pensions in the EU', DG JUST 2013.

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/gender-equality/files/documents/130530_pensions_en.pdf

⁽⁵⁾ Pension Adequacy in the European Union 2010-2050: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=7805&langId=en>

⁽⁶⁾ 2013 European Semester: Country Specific Recommendations: Moving Europe Beyond the Crisis, COM(2013) 350 final: <http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/making-it-happen/country-specific-recommendations/>

⁽⁷⁾ *ibid.*

(Deutsche Fassung)

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012066/13
an die Kommission**

Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)

(23. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Wiederaufnahme der Verhandlungen mit der Türkei

Angesichts der in dieser Plenarwoche angekündigten möglichen Zahlungsunfähigkeit der Europäischen Union sowie angesichts der Tatsache, dass viele unserer eigenen Mitgliedsländer von einem „ausgeglichenen Budget“ weit entfernt sind:

1. Wie wird die Weiterführung von Beitrittsverhandlungen mit der Türkei, welche möglicherweise kurz- bis mittelfristig, aber auch langfristig Zahlungen für weitere Heranführungshilfen mit sich bringen werden, gerechtfertigt?
2. Welche Entwicklungen haben sich im Rahmen des Europäischen Nachbarschafts- und Partnerschaftsinstruments bzw. in den regionalen grenzüberschreitenden Partnerschaften in den vergangenen Monaten ergeben?
3. Wie gedenkt die Kommission vor diesem Hintergrund künftig mit dem Konflikt zwischen Zypern und der Türkei umzugehen?

Antwort von Herrn Füle im Namen der Kommission

(11. Dezember 2013)

Die Aufnahme von Beitrittsverhandlungen mit der Türkei im Oktober 2005 erfolgte auf einstimmigen Beschluss der EU-Mitgliedstaaten. Im Dezember 2012 bekräftigten die Mitgliedstaaten, dass die Beitrittsverhandlungen sowohl im Interesse der Türkei als auch der Europäischen Union rasch wieder an Dynamik gewinnen sollten, und die Kommission betonte in ihrem Erweiterungspaket 2013, dass ein verstärktes Engagement in den Beziehungen zur Türkei erforderlich sei.

Die Informationen über die Unterstützung der Erweiterungsländer sind im Jahresbericht 2012 über die finanzielle Unterstützung des Erweiterungsprozesses und in der dazugehörigen Arbeitsunterlage ⁽¹⁾ zusammengefasst. Beide Dokumente wurden dem Rat und dem Europäischen Parlament vorgelegt.

Von 2007 bis 2013 hat die Türkei an zwei Programmen für die grenzübergreifende Zusammenarbeit teilgenommen: am Programm zur grenzübergreifenden Zusammenarbeit zwischen Bulgarien und der Türkei und am Gemeinsamen Operativen Programm für die grenzübergreifende Zusammenarbeit im Schwarzmeerraum

Im Finanzierungszeitraum 2014-2020 verfolgt die Heranführungshilfe der EU folgende Ziele: Förderung der territorialen Zusammenarbeit, Stärkung der grenzenübergreifenden, transnationalen Zusammenarbeit, Förderung der sozioökonomischen Entwicklung der Grenzregionen und Entwicklung angemessener Verwaltungskapazitäten auf lokaler und regionaler Ebene durch die Beteiligung der Türkei an grenzübergreifenden Aktivitäten.

Was den Konflikt mit Zypern anbetrifft, so verweist die Kommission die Frau Abgeordnete auf ihre Antwort auf die Frage E-011122/13 ⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key_documents/2013/2012_ipa_annual_report_with_annex_new_en.pdf

⁽²⁾ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/de/parliamentary-questions.html>

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012066/13
to the Commission
Angelika Werthmann (ALDE)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: Resumption of the negotiations with Turkey

In view of the potential insolvency of the European Union that was announced during this plenary part-session, as well as the fact that many of our own Member States are a long way from having a 'balanced budget':

1. What is the justification for continuing the accession negotiations with Turkey, which will involve further pre-accession aid payments in the long term, but potentially also in the short to medium term?
2. What developments have there been within the framework of the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument and in the regional cross-border partnerships in recent months?
3. Against this background, how does the Commission intend to deal with the conflict between Cyprus and Turkey in future?

**Answer given by Mr Füle on behalf of the Commission
(11 December 2013)**

Opening accession negotiations with Turkey in October 2005 was a unanimous decision by the EU Member States. In December 2012, the Member States reconfirmed that it is in the interest of both Turkey and the European Union that accession negotiations regain momentum soon, and the Commission emphasised in its October 2013 Enlargement package the need for enhanced engagement with Turkey.

Information on assistance to Enlargement countries is presented in the Annual Report on Financial Assistance for Enlargement 2012 and its accompanying Staff Working Document ⁽¹⁾. Both have been transmitted to Council and Parliament.

In the period 2007-2013, Turkey has been participating in two Cross-Border Cooperation programmes: the Bulgaria-Turkey and the Black Sea Basin Joint Operational Programme.

For the financial period 2014-2020, the objective of EU pre-accession assistance is to promote territorial cooperation; strengthen cross-border, transnational cooperation, foster the socioeconomic development of the border regions and develop appropriate administrative capacities at local and regional levels through participation of Turkey in cross-border activities.

As regards Cyprus, the Commission refers the Honourable Member to the reply it gave in its answer to Question E-011122/13 ⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key_documents/2013/2012_ipa_annual_report_with_annex_new_en.pdf
⁽²⁾ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/parliamentary-questions.html>

(Version française)

Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012067/13

à la Commission

Gaston Franco (PPE)

(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Adhésion de la Turquie

Le 22 octobre 2013, les ministres chargés des affaires européennes ont donné leur accord pour l'ouverture à partir du 5 novembre prochain d'un nouveau chapitre de négociation pour l'adhésion de la Turquie à l'Union européenne suivant les recommandations de la Commission.

Cette décision intervient au moment où les Européens se méfient de plus en plus de l'Europe et la perspective d'un élargissement supplémentaire ne les rassure pas, notamment en termes de gouvernance.

D'un point de vue institutionnel, cette ouverture est d'autant plus incompréhensible que la Turquie a gelé les relations avec l'Union européenne lors de la présidence chypriote de l'Union européenne.

D'un point de vue humaniste, elle ne se justifie pas davantage après les sanglantes répressions qu'a connu le pays cet hiver pendant les manifestations civiles de la place Taksim.

Le chapitre qui va être ouvert concerne, pour le moment, uniquement la politique régionale. Bien que l'UE n'ait pas les moyens financiers pour intégrer un pays qui sera probablement bénéficiaire net de cette politique communautaire, un problème opérationnel se pose d'ores et déjà concernant le volet de la coopération transfrontalière et particulièrement avec Chypre.

La Commission prend-elle réellement en compte la situation de Chypre dans ses propositions?

La Commission a-t-elle analysé l'impact financier de cette décision (tant sur le coût administratif des négociations, qui ont débuté en 1987, que sur le budget de l'Union)?

A-t-elle analysé son impact géopolitique (sur les nouvelles frontières de l'UE et sur la politique d'immigration)?

Réponse donnée par M. Füle au nom de la Commission

(10 décembre 2013)

La Turquie est à la fois un pays candidat, un partenaire stratégique de l'Union européenne, un partenaire commercial majeur, un élément précieux de la compétitivité de l'UE grâce à l'union douanière et un acteur régional de premier plan. L'UE reste un point d'ancrage important pour les réformes économiques et politiques en Turquie. Les événements survenus à propos du parc Gezi ont mis en évidence l'importance de promouvoir le dialogue au sens large.

Le potentiel de la relation UE-Turquie est pleinement exploité dans le cadre d'un processus d'adhésion actif et crédible. Ce dernier reste la structure la plus adéquate pour promouvoir les réformes liées à l'UE et renforcer la coopération, y compris en matière de politique d'immigration. Les négociations d'adhésion ont besoin d'une nouvelle impulsion, dans le respect des engagements de l'UE et des conditions fixées. L'ouverture du chapitre 22 consacré à la politique régionale, début novembre 2013, constitue à cet égard une étape importante. L'un des critères à respecter pour clôturer ce chapitre, ainsi que tous les chapitres de négociation, est que la Turquie remplisse son obligation de mise en œuvre intégrale et non discriminatoire du protocole additionnel à l'accord d'association vis-à-vis de l'ensemble des États membres, y compris la République de Chypre.

Un an avant le début des négociations d'adhésion en 2005, la Commission avait publié une communication au Conseil et au Parlement concernant les progrès réalisés par la Turquie sur la voie de l'adhésion ⁽¹⁾. Une évaluation plus détaillée des implications budgétaires de l'adhésion d'un pays à l'UE est réalisée lorsque les négociations touchent à leur fin.

(1) COM(2004) 656 final.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012067/13
to the Commission
Gaston Franco (PPE)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: Accession of Turkey

On 22 October 2013, the European affairs ministers approved the opening of a new chapter of negotiations on Turkish accession on 5 November, in keeping with the Commission's recommendation.

This decision comes at a time when Europeans are growing increasingly distrustful of the Union, and the prospect of further enlargement, particularly its implications for governance, will do nothing to reassure them.

From an institutional perspective, the decision to open new negotiations is all the more bewildering considering that Turkey froze relations with the European Union during the Cyprus Presidency in 2012.

From a humanitarian perspective, following last winter's bloody crackdowns against demonstrations in Taksim Square it makes just as little sense.

For the time being, the chapter to be opened will deal exclusively with regional policy. Quite apart from the fact that the EU cannot afford to incorporate a country which will probably be a net beneficiary of this Community policy, there is already a practical problem regarding cross-border cooperation, particularly with Cyprus.

Do the Commission's proposals really take the situation of Cyprus into account?

Has the Commission considered the financial implications of its decision, i.e. the administrative cost of the negotiations, which began in 1987, and the impact on the EU budget?

Has the Commission considered the geopolitical implications of its decision, i.e. the new borders the EU will acquire and the repercussions for immigration policy?

**Answer given by Mr Füle on behalf of the Commission
(10 December 2013)**

Turkey is a candidate country and a strategic partner for the European Union, an important trading partner, a valuable component of EU competitiveness through the Customs Union and plays an important regional role. The EU remains an important anchor for Turkey's economic and political reforms. The events surrounding Gezi Park have highlighted the importance of promoting dialogue broadly.

The full potential of the EU-Turkey relationship is best fulfilled within the framework of an active and credible accession process. This process remains the most suitable framework for promoting EU-related reforms and increasing cooperation, including on immigration policy. Accession negotiations need to regain momentum, respecting the EU's commitments and the established conditionality. The opening of Chapter 22-Regional policy in early November 2013 represents an important step. One of the closing benchmarks for this, but also for all negotiating chapters, is that Turkey has fulfilled its obligation of the full non-discriminatory implementation of the Additional protocol to the Association Agreement towards all Member States, including the Republic of Cyprus.

The Commission had issued a communication to the Council and Parliament on Turkey's progress towards accession ⁽¹⁾, a year before the start of the accession negotiations in 2005. A more detailed assessment of budgetary implications of a country's accession to the EU is conducted close to the completion of negotiations.

⁽¹⁾ COM(2004) 656 final.

(Deutsche Fassung)

Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012068/13
an die Kommission
Rainer Wieland (PPE)
(23. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Elektronisches Anmelde- und Ausfuhrverfahren/Mehrwertsterrückstattung

Jeder, der seinen Wohnsitz außerhalb der Europäischen Union hat und in der EU erworbene Waren ausführen will, kann sich die Mehrwertsteuer bei der Ausreise zurückerstatten lassen. Bei der Ausreise erfolgt die Erstattung nicht durch den Zoll, sondern direkt durch den Händler. Dafür müssen Kunden die beim Zoll erhaltene Ausfuhrbescheinigung an diesen zurücksenden.

Um die erforderliche Ausfuhrbescheinigung zu erhalten, ist EU-weit die Teilnahme am elektronischen Anmelde- und Ausfuhrverfahren verpflichtend. Die Ausfuhrzollstelle (AfZSt) überführt die elektronisch angemeldeten Waren in das Ausfuhrverfahren. Die Ausgangszollstelle (AgZSt) überwacht den körperlichen Ausgang der Waren aus dem Zollgebiet der Union und informiert durch einen Ausgangsvermerk die AfZSt. Der Ausgangsvermerk gilt in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland als Beleg und ist als Nachweis für Umsatzsteuerzwecke anerkannt. Die Mehrwertsteuer kann dann zurückerstattet werden.

Geht diese Ausgangsbestätigung bei der AfZSt nicht ein, kann das Ausfuhrverfahren nicht automatisiert beendet werden. In diesem Fall sieht das Unionsrecht eine Überprüfung des Ausfuhrvorgangs vor. Gegebenenfalls wird ein Nachforschungsersuchen durch die Ausfuhrzollstelle eingeleitet und der Teilnehmer aufgefordert, einen Alternativnachweis vorzulegen. Für die AfZSt entsteht also zusätzlicher Aufwand, unter anderem dadurch, dass die AgZSt das Verfahren nicht ordnungsgemäß schließt.

Ohne die Ausfuhrbescheinigung kann die Mehrwertsteuer nicht erstattet werden und entweder der Händler oder der Kunde verliert die Möglichkeit der Rückforderung. Für den Händler besteht die Gefahr, diese Kunden zu verlieren oder die Kosten selbst tragen zu müssen. Der Käufer steht regelmäßig vor dem Problem, dass er bei der Ausreise unter Zeitdruck steht und bei fehlerhafter Ausfuhrbescheinigung kaum Abhilfe schaffen kann.

1. Liegen der Kommission Erkenntnisse über die Umsetzung des elektronischen Ausfuhrverfahrens in den einzelnen Mitgliedstaaten vor?
2. Ist der Kommission bekannt, ob es an Zollstellen innerhalb der Europäischen Union zu Problemen mit der Erstellung des Ausgangsvermerks kommt, beispielsweise dadurch, dass Zollbeamte das Ausfuhrverfahren nicht ordnungsgemäß schließen?
3. Welche Möglichkeiten bieten sich nach Ansicht der Kommission Betroffenen, bei fehlerhafter Verfahrensbearbeitung durch die Ausgangszollstelle schnelle Hilfe zu erhalten?

Antwort von Herrn Šemeta im Namen der Kommission
(29. November 2013)

1. Die Kommission bestätigt, dass ihr Informationen über das elektronische Ausfuhrkontrollsystem vorliegen, die die Betriebskontinuität auf Ebene der einzelnen Mitgliedstaaten betreffen. Sofern bei ihr aber keine konkrete Beschwerde eingeht, ist ihr der Inhalt der ausgetauschten Meldungen nicht bekannt, da dieser in den ausschließlichen operativen Zuständigkeitsbereich der Mitgliedstaaten fällt.
2. Der Kommission sind einige Fälle bekannt, in denen der Ausfuhrzollstelle kein Ausgangsvermerk übermittelt wurde. Diese Probleme sind in erster Linie darauf zurückzuführen, dass die Ausführer/Anmelder den Zoll nicht ordnungsgemäß unterrichtet haben, wogegen die Zollbeamten die einschlägigen Verfahren in den meisten Fällen richtig anwenden. Dessen ungeachtet ist es in der Vergangenheit in einigen Zollstellen zu Verzögerungen gekommen.

3. Es ist äußerst wichtig, dass der Wirtschaftsbeteiligte, der für die Waren an der Ausgangszollstelle verantwortlich ist, den Zoll gemäß den Ausfuhrverfahren unterrichtet ⁽¹⁾. Die Kommission wird die Situation weiterhin überwachen, damit Verzögerungen auf ein Mindestmaß reduziert werden können. In der Regel kann der Ausführer/Anmelder die Ausfuhrzollstelle darüber unterrichten, dass die Waren das Zollgebiet der EU verlassen haben (mit Angabe des Ausgangsdatums und der Ausgangszollstelle) und die Ausgangszollstelle um eine Bestätigung des Warenausgangs ersuchen. In diesem Fall fordert die Ausfuhrzollstelle bei der Ausgangszollstelle den Ausgangsvermerk an, der ersterer innerhalb von zehn Tagen zu übermitteln ist. Auf Ersuchen des Ausführers oder Anmelders, dass der Warenausgang anhand eines Alternativnachweises bescheinigt wird, kann frühestens 15 Tage, nachdem die Waren zur Ausfuhr überlassen wurden, ein Suchverfahren eingeleitet werden, das zur Ausstellung einer Bescheinigung führt.

⁽¹⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/ecip/documents/procedures/export_exit_guidelines_en.pdf

(English version)

Question for written answer E-012068/13
to the Commission
Rainer Wieland (PPE)
(23 October 2013)

Subject: Electronic declaration and export procedure/VAT refund

Anyone who resides outside the European Union and wishes to export goods purchased in the EU can have the VAT refunded when the goods exit the Union. On exiting the Union, the refund is given directly by the trader, not by customs. To this end, the customer must send the export certificate obtained at customs to the trader.

In order to obtain the necessary export certificate, it is mandatory EU-wide to participate in the electronic declaration and export procedure. The customs office of export transfers the electronically declared goods to the export procedure. The customs office of exit supervises the physical exit of the goods from the customs territory of the Union and informs the customs office of export by means of an exit results message. In the Federal Republic of Germany, the exit results message is classed as documentary evidence and is recognised as proof for VAT purposes. The VAT can then be refunded.

If this export confirmation is not received by the customs office of export, the export procedure cannot be concluded in the automated procedure. In this case, Union law provides for an investigation into the export movement. Where necessary, an enquiry procedure is initiated by the customs office of export and the participant is invited to produce alternative evidence. Thus, extra work is created for the customs office of export as a result, among other things, of the fact that the customs office of exit does not complete the procedure properly.

Without the export certificate, the VAT cannot be refunded, and either the trader or the customer loses the opportunity for recovery. For traders, there is a danger of losing these customers, or they must bear the costs themselves. Buyers regularly face the problem of being under time pressure when exiting and have very little chance of rectifying the situation in the event of a defective export certificate.

1. Does the Commission have information concerning the implementation of the electronic export procedure in the individual Member States?
2. Does it know whether there have been problems at customs offices within the European Union with the issuing of the export results message, for example as a result of customs officials not concluding the export procedure properly?
3. In its opinion, what means are available to those affected to obtain assistance quickly in the event of the defective conclusion of the procedure by the customs office of exit?

Answer given by Mr Šemeta on behalf of the Commission
(29 November 2013)

1. Yes, the Commission has information on the IT Export Control System as regards continuity of operations at the level of an entire Member State. However, unless a specific complaint is addressed to the Commission, it is not aware on the content of messages that are exchanged because this is the exclusive operational competence of Member States.

2. The Commission is aware of a number of cases where the 'exit results' message was not sent to the office of export. These problems are mainly occurring due to the fact that exporters/declarants have not informed customs properly, whereas customs officials are applying the relevant procedures correctly in most cases. Nevertheless, certain delays have been experienced in the past in some customs offices.

3. It is of outmost importance that the economic operator responsible for the goods at the point of exit informs customs according to the export procedures⁽¹⁾. The Commission will continue to monitor the situation to minimise delays in the future. In general, the exporter/declarant may inform the customs office of export that the goods have left the customs territory of the EU (indicating the date of exit and the customs office of exit), and request from the customs office of export that the exit be certified. In this case, the customs office of export will request the 'exit results' message from the customs office of exit, which shall respond within 10 days. On request from the exporter or declarant to certify exit based on alternative evidence, an enquiry procedure leading to certification can be started, but not earlier than 15 days after the goods have been released for export.

⁽¹⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/ecip/documents/procedures/export_exit_guidelines_en.pdf

(Versión española)

**Pregunta con solicitud de respuesta escrita E-012069/13
a la Comisión**

Iñaki Irazabalbeitia Fernández (Verts/ALE)

(23 de octubre de 2013)

Asunto: Y vasca y financiación europea

Según informaciones periodísticas, la Unión Europea financiará la construcción de la red de alta velocidad de la Comunidad Autónoma del País Vasco llamada Y vasca. Se menciona la cantidad de 5,9 millones de euros para el tramo que discurre por la provincia de Gipuzkoa.

Por otra parte, tal como la Comisión conoce, una comisión de la Asamblea Nacional Francesa ha elaborado este año un informe (Informe Duron) sobre la red de alta velocidad en Francia. Dicho informe recomienda retrasar la construcción de nuevas líneas de alta velocidad hasta «más allá de 2030». Entre ellas se encuentra la conexión entre Burdeos y el ramal gipuzkoano de la Y vasca.

Además, la conexión de la Y vasca con la red peninsular también atraviesa dificultades. Por problemas presupuestarios la construcción de las obras del tramo Valladolid-Venta de Baños ha estado prácticamente paralizada los dos últimos años. El tramo Estepar-Burgos sufre también problemas presupuestarios. Finalmente, el tramo Burgos-Vitoria de 91 km está todavía en fase de redacción del proyecto. Se ha comentado que este tramo puede ser sustituido por la adición de un tercer carril a la red convencional. Ninguno de los tramos construidos tiene instaladas ni vías, ni señales ni otros elementos de circulación.

La conexión de la Y vasca con el corredor mediterráneo a través de Navarra, también está en una situación todavía más precaria y alejada de su construcción.

En definitiva, la conexión de la Y vasca con la red peninsular de alta velocidad se está retrasando y hay peligro de que no se termine de construir. La Y vasca puede quedar convertida en una muy cara infraestructura para unir solo ciudades que distan entre sí 100 km.

¿Es consciente la Comisión de la realidad de la Y vasca y su conexión con las redes peninsulares y francesas?

¿Considera la Comisión que, en este periodo de crisis económica, reducción de presupuestos públicos y recortes sociales, es conveniente invertir el dinero de los contribuyentes en infraestructuras cuya viabilidad es incierta?

¿No considera la Comisión que sería más interesante invertir esos fondos en la mejora de la red convencional y de cercanías, que dicho sea de paso, necesitan un gran modernización y renovación y son utilizadas por miles de ciudadanos todos los días?

Respuesta del Sr. Kallas en nombre de la Comisión

(6 de diciembre de 2013)

La Comisión está siguiendo muy de cerca la situación de la Y vasca, inclusive mediante la realización de visitas *ad hoc*. En la actualidad, la inmensa mayoría de los tramos se encuentran en una fase avanzada de ejecución y se espera que estén terminados para el año 2017. La Y vasca contribuirá también de manera directa a la mejora de la red de transportes locales y regionales, permitiendo la movilidad de más de 70 000 vehículos cada día entre las tres capitales vascas.

La Comisión considera que merece la pena avanzar en la implantación de este corredor transeuropeo, que puede contribuir de manera significativa a la integración europea y a la cohesión territorial, mejorando a su vez la integración del comercio mundial en el espacio único europeo de transporte.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012069/13
to the Commission
Iñaki Irazabalbeitia Fernández (Verts/ALE)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: Y Vasca and European funding

According to media sources, the European Union will finance the construction of the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country's high-speed rail network, Y Vasca. The amount quoted for the section which runs through the province of Gipuzkoa is EUR 5.9 million.

However, as the Commission is aware, a committee from the French National Assembly has drawn up a report this year (Duron Report) on the high-speed network in France. This report recommends postponing the construction of new high-speed lines until 'after 2030', including the connection between Burdeos and the Gipuzkoan section of Y Vasca.

Furthermore, the Y Vasca connection with the peninsular network has also run into difficulties. Due to budgetary problems, the construction of the Valladolid-Venta de Baños section has practically been at a standstill for the last two years. The Estepar-Burgos section is also suffering as a result of budgetary problems. Finally, the 91 km Burgos-Vitoria section is still in the drafting stage of the project. There has been talk that this section could be replaced by adding a third railway line to the conventional network. None of the sections built has been installed, and neither have the tracks, signals or other circulation components.

The Y Vasca connection with the Mediterranean corridor through Navarra is also still in a very precarious situation and is far from being built.

Ultimately, the Y Vasca connection with the high-speed peninsular network is being delayed and there is a danger that construction will not be finished. Y Vasca could become a very expensive infrastructure connecting cities that are only 100 km apart.

Is the Commission aware of the Y Vasca situation and its connection to the peninsular network and the French network?

Does the Commission think that, in this time of economic crisis, reduced public budgets and social cuts, it is appropriate to invest taxpayers' money in infrastructures which may not be viable?

Does the Commission not believe that it would be more worthwhile to invest these funds in improving the conventional network and the commuter network, which, incidentally, are in need of major modernisation and renovation and which are used by thousands of citizens every day?

**Answer given by Mr Kallas on behalf of the Commission
(6 December 2013)**

The Commission is closely monitoring the situation of the Y-Basque, including through *ad hoc* site-visits. Currently, the vast majority of the lots are in an advanced stage of implementation and expected to be finalised by 2017. The Y-Basque will directly contribute also to improving the local and regional transport with more than 70,000 vehicles moving daily between the three Basque capitals.

The Commission believes that it is worth progressing towards the deployment of this Trans-European Corridor that can significantly contribute to the European integration and its territorial cohesion, while better integrating the global trade into the Single European Transport Area.

(Ελληνική έκδοση)

Ερώτηση με αίτημα γραπτής απάντησης E-012071/13
προς την Επιτροπή
Antigoni Papadopoulou (S&D)
(23 Οκτωβρίου 2013)

Θέμα: Ωραιοποίηση της εικόνας

Φαίνεται πως η Ευρωπαϊκή Επιτροπή επιχειρεί να δημιουργήσει θετικές εντυπώσεις για την Τουρκία, αφού στο προσχέδιο της έκθεσης προόδου της Τουρκίας, γίνεται προσπάθεια αποενοχοποίησης της Άγκυρας στο Κυπριακό.

Και ερωτώ την Επιτροπή:

1. Με τη συμπερίληψη της φράσης ότι «η Τουρκία συνέχισε να εκφράζει δημόσια στήριξη για τις διαπραγματεύσεις μεταξύ των ηγετών των δύο κοινοτήτων στην Κύπρο, υπό την αιγίδα του Γενικού Γραμματέα των Ηνωμένων Εθνών για μια δίκαιη, συνολική και βιώσιμη λύση» δεν κατανοεί ότι ουσιαστικά αποενοχοποιεί την κατοχική Τουρκία και την εμφανίζει μάλιστα ως ένα επιτήμειο τρίτο που όχι μόνο ενθαρρύνει για την επανέναρχη των συνομιλιών, αλλά επιζητεί και διακαώς μια δίκαιη λύση του Κυπριακού;
2. Μήπως η προδήλως εξωπραγματική αυτή εικόνα αποσκοπεί να στρωθεί το χαλί στην Άγκυρα ώστε να ανοίξουν νέα ενταξιακά κεφάλαια, στο πλαίσιο των ευρωτουρκικών διαπραγματεύσεων και να διευκολυνθεί η Τουρκία, την ώρα μάλιστα που δεν έχει κάνει κανένα ουσιαστικό βήμα στο Κυπριακό, πέραν από τις ρητορικές της φανφάρες;
3. Γιατί η Επιτροπή κλείνει τα μάτια στη συνεχιζόμενη κατοχή;
4. Γιατί δεν βλέπει πως η εκκρεμότητα του Κυπριακού οφείλεται στις μαξιμαλιστικές διεκδικήσεις της Άγκυρας;
5. Γιατί, χωρίς να έχει αρμοδιότητα, επιχειρεί να ερμηνεύσει τη θέση του ΕΔΑΔ επί της «επιτροπής αποζημιώσεων» στην υπόθεση Μελεάγρου, θεωρώντας ότι το Δικαστήριο υπονόησε χρήση όλων των ένδικων μέσων για εξασφάλιση οικονομικής ανακούφισης, «ακόμη και εάν αυτό οδηγεί σε απώλεια της αξίωσης επί του τίτλου ιδιοκτησίας»; Προς τι αυτή η ερμηνεία; Είναι θέμα της έκθεσης το ζήτημα τούτο;
6. Γιατί δημιουργείται η εντύπωση ότι η ευθύνη δεν βρίσκεται στους ώμους της Άγκυρας; Είναι ικανοποιημένη η Επιτροπή από τη διαχρονική τουρκική αδιαλλαξία έναντι της Κύπρου;
7. Γιατί αποφεύγεται επιμελώς οποιαδήποτε αναφορά στο θέμα της Αμμοχώστου;

Απάντηση του κ. Füle εξ ονόματος της Επιτροπής
(7 Ιανουαρίου 2014)

Τα ζητήματα που θίγει το Αξιότιμο Μέλος είναι μέρος της διαδικασίας για την επίτευξη συνολικής διευθέτησης του κυπριακού μεταξύ των ηγετών της ελληνοκυπριακής και της τουρκοκυπριακής κοινότητας υπό την αιγίδα των Ηνωμένων Εθνών.

Όπως τονίζεται στο πλαίσιο διαπραγμάτευσης και τις δηλώσεις του Συμβουλίου, προσδοκάται από την Τουρκία να υποστηρίξει ενεργά τις διαπραγματεύσεις με σκοπό τη δίκαιη, συνολική και βιώσιμη επίλυση του κυπριακού προβλήματος στο πλαίσιο του ΟΗΕ, σύμφωνα με τα σχετικά ψηφίσματα του Συμβουλίου Ασφαλείας των Ηνωμένων Εθνών και με τις αρχές στις οποίες θεμελιώνεται η ΕΕ. Η συγκεκριμένη δέσμευση που ανέλαβε η Τουρκία για συνολική επίλυση είναι κρίσιμης σημασίας.

Επιπλέον, η Επιτροπή παραπέμπει το αξιότιμο μέλος του Κοινοβουλίου στην έκθεση προόδου του 2013 για την Τουρκία ⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/countries/strategy-and-progress-report/index_en.htm

(English version)

Question for written answer E-012071/13
to the Commission
Antigoni Papadopoulou (S&D)
(23 October 2013)

Subject: Gilding the pill

It would appear that the European Commission is trying to paint Turkey in a positive light, given that the draft progress report on Turkey endeavours to absolve Ankara of all responsibility in Cyprus.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

1. Does it not understand that, by including the phrase 'Turkey continued to express public support for the negotiations between the leaders of the two communities under the Good Offices of the UN Secretary-General aimed at a fair, comprehensive and viable solution', it is basically absolving occupying Turkey of all responsibility and presenting it as an astute third party which is both encouraging the resumption of talks and rightly seeking a fair solution to the Cyprus question?
2. Is the aim of this manifestly unrealistic picture to smooth things over with Ankara, so that new accession chapters can be opened within the framework of Euro-Turkish negotiations, and to make things easier for Turkey, at the very time when it is not taking any serious action on the Cyprus question over and above its rhetorical bombast.
3. Why it is turning a blind eye to the continuing occupation?
4. Why does it refuse to acknowledge that the fact that the Cyprus question has still not been resolved due to Ankara's maximalist ambitions?
5. Why, given that it has no jurisdiction, it is trying to construe the position of the European Court of Human Rights on the 'Immovable Property Commission' in the Meleagrou case as meaning that the Court implied that all legal means should be used to secure financial relief, even if that results in a loss of claim to the property right? What is the point of that interpretation? Is that issue the subject matter of the report?
6. Why it is creating the impression that responsibility does not lie with Ankara? Is it satisfied with Turkey's persistent intransigence towards Cyprus?
7. Why it has carefully avoided all reference to the question of Famagusta?

Answer given by Mr Füle on behalf of the Commission
(7 January 2014)

The issues raised by the Honourable Member are part of the process aiming at a comprehensive settlement in Cyprus between the leaders of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities under the auspices of the United Nations.

As emphasised in the negotiating framework and Council declarations, Turkey is expected to actively support the negotiations aimed at a fair, comprehensive and viable settlement of the Cyprus issue within the UN framework, in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and in line with the principles on which the EU is founded. Turkey's commitment in concrete terms to such a comprehensive settlement is crucial.

The Commission further refers the Honourable Member to its 2013 Progress Report on Turkey ⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/countries/strategy-and-progress-report/index_en.htm

(Ελληνική έκδοση)

Ερώτηση με αίτημα γραπτής απάντησης E-012072/13
προς την Επιτροπή
Antigoni Papadopoulou (S&D)
(23 Οκτωβρίου 2013)

Θέμα: Δήμευση της περιουσίας 17 ιστορικών μονών στην Τουρκία

Επιθυμώ να επιστήσω την προσοχή σας στη δήμευση της περιουσίας 17 ιστορικών μονών στην Τουρκία, τις οποίες το τουρκικό κράτος χαρακτήρισε ως «εγκαταλελειμμένες», θέτοντάς τις υπό την άμεση εποπτεία του, παρά το γεγονός ότι έχει επιτραπεί στην ελληνορθόδοξη κοινότητα να τις χρησιμοποιεί.

Σε ποιες ενέργειες θα προβεί η Επιτροπή και τι είδους πίεση θα ασκήσει για την επίλυση του χρονίζοντος αυτού προβλήματος στο πλαίσιο των ενταξιακών διαπραγματεύσεων Τουρκίας/ΕΕ;

Ερώτηση με αίτημα γραπτής απάντησης E-012074/13
προς την Επιτροπή
Antigoni Papadopoulou (S&D)
(23 Οκτωβρίου 2013)

Θέμα: Παράνομη κατοχή τριών ελληνορθόδοξων εκκλησιών και της περιουσίας τους στο Karaköy/Γαλατά (Κωνσταντινούπολη)

Επιθυμώ να επιστήσω την προσοχή σας στη συνεχιζόμενη παράνομη κατοχή τριών ελληνορθόδοξων εκκλησιών και της περιουσίας τους στην περιοχή Karaköy/Γαλατά της Κωνσταντινούπολης, από τη λεγόμενη (και αυτοανακηρυχθείσα το 1924) τουρκική ορθόδοξη εκκλησία, κατοχή που ανάγεται στην περίοδο 1923-1965 και η οποία διεπράχθη με την υποστήριξη της τότε τουρκικής κυβέρνησης. Η πράξη αυτή είναι αντίθετη σε όλους τους κανόνες της χριστιανικής πίστης. Οι εκκλησίες και η περιουσία τους πρέπει να επιστραφούν στους νόμιμους ιδιοκτήτες τους, δηλαδή στο Οικουμενικό Πατριαρχείο και στην ελληνορθόδοξη κοινότητα της Κωνσταντινούπολης.

Επιθυμώ να γνωρίζω ποια είναι η στάση της Επιτροπής στο θέμα της αποκατάστασης του νόμιμου ιδιοκτησιακού καθεστώτος των εκκλησιών και της προστασίας των δικαιωμάτων της ελληνορθόδοξης εκκλησίας στην Τουρκία.

Κοινή απάντηση του κ. Füle εξ ονόματος της Επιτροπής
(19 Δεκεμβρίου 2013)

Η Επιτροπή γνωρίζει τα προβλήματα που οι μη μουσουλμανικές κοινότητες εξακολουθούν να αντιμετωπίζουν, για λόγους όπως η αδυναμία τους να αποκτήσουν νομική υπόσταση. Αυτό έχει δυσμενή αποτελέσματα, μεταξύ άλλων, όσον αφορά τα δικαιώματα κυριότητας. Οι σχετικές με το θέμα συστάσεις της Επιτροπής της Βενετίας του Συμβουλίου της Ευρώπης δεν έχουν ακόμη εφαρμοσθεί. Τα ζητήματα αυτά θίγονται με τις τουρκικές αρχές σε όλες τις κατάλληλες περιστάσεις και επαναλαμβάνονται στην έκθεση προόδου του 2013 για την Τουρκία⁽¹⁾.

Αναφορικά με τα δικαιώματα ιδιοκτησίας, οι τουρκικές αρχές έχουν καταβάλει σημαντικές προσπάθειες για την εφαρμογή της νομοθεσίας του 2011 για την αναθεώρηση του νόμου περί ιδρυμάτων του 2008. Σύμφωνα με την αναθεωρημένη νομοθεσία, 116 ιδρύματα της μειονοτικής κοινότητας υπέβαλαν αίτηση για την αποκατάσταση συνολικά 1 560 ιδιοκτησιών. Έως τον Αύγουστο του 2013, το Συμβούλιο των ιδρυμάτων ενέκρινε την επιστροφή 253 ιδιοκτησιών και την καταβολή αποζημίωσης για 18 ιδιοκτησίες, ενώ αποφάσισε ότι 878 αιτήσεις δεν ήταν επιλέξιμες. Ωστόσο, η ισχύουσα νομοθεσία δεν καλύπτει περιπτώσεις ιδρυμάτων των οποίων τη διαχείριση έχει αναλάβει η Γενική Διεύθυνση Ιδρυμάτων και περιπτώσεις ιδιοκτησιών ιδρυμάτων που έχουν μεταβιβασθεί σε τρίτα πρόσωπα.

Η Επιτροπή παρακολουθεί το θέμα εκ του σύνεγγυς και βρίσκεται σε τακτική επαφή με τα εμπλεκόμενα ιδρύματα. Η Επιτροπή, ωστόσο, δεν έχει υπόψη της τις «17 ιστορικές μονές στην Τουρκία» των οποίων η ιδιοκτησία έχει διμευθεί, όπως αναφέρει η κ. βουλευτής, και θα επιθυμούσε να λάβει συμπληρωματικές πληροφορίες επί του θέματος.

(1) http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key_documents/2013/package/tr_rapport_2013.pdf

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012072/13
to the Commission
Antigoni Papadopoulou (S&D)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: Confiscation of the property of 17 historical monasteries in Turkey

I bring to your attention the confiscation of the property of 17 historical monasteries in Turkey which have been declared 'abandoned' by the Turkish state and placed under its direct supervision, despite the fact that their use by the Greek Orthodox community has been authorised.

What actions will the Commission take, and what pressure will it exert, in order to resolve this persistent problem within the framework of the Turkey/EU accession negotiations?

**Question for written answer E-012074/13
to the Commission
Antigoni Papadopoulou (S&D)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: Illegal occupation of three Greek Orthodox churches and their property in Karaköy/Galata (Istanbul)

I bring to your attention the continuing illegal occupation of three Greek Orthodox churches and their property in the Karaköy/Galata district of Istanbul by the so-called (self-declared as such in 1924) Turkish Orthodox Church, dating from the period 1923-1965 and perpetrated with the support of the Turkish governments of the time. This act is against all the rules of the Christian religion. These churches and their property should be returned to their legal owners, namely the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Greek Orthodox community of Istanbul.

I would like to know the Commission's attitude to the restoration of legal ownership and the protection of the rights of the Greek Orthodox church in Turkey.

**Joint answer given by Mr Füle on behalf of the Commission
(19 December 2013)**

The Commission is aware of problems non-Muslim communities continue to face, including as a result of being unable to acquire legal personality. This has adverse effects *inter alia* on property rights. The relevant 2010 Council of Europe Venice Commission recommendations have yet to be implemented. These issues are raised with the Turkish authorities on all appropriate occasions and reiterated in the Turkey 2013 Progress Report ⁽¹⁾.

On property rights, the Turkish authorities have made significant efforts to implement the 2011 legislation revising the 2008 Law on Foundations. Under the revised legislation, 116 minority community foundations applied for the restitution of a total of 1 560 properties. By August 2013, the Foundations Council had approved the return of 253 properties and the payment of compensation for 18 properties, and decided that 878 applications were not eligible. Current legislation does not, however, cover foundations which have had their management taken over by the Directorate-General for Foundations, nor properties of foundations which have been transferred to third persons.

The Commission follows the issue closely and is in regular contact with institutions concerned. The Commission is, however, not aware of the '17 historical monasteries in Turkey' whose property has been confiscated, as mentioned by the Honourable Member and would appreciate additional information on these.

⁽¹⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key_documents/2013/package/tr_rapport_2013.pdf

(Ελληνική έκδοση)

Ερώτηση με αίτημα γραπτής απάντησης E-012073/13
προς την Επιτροπή
Antigoni Papadopoulou (S&D)
(23 Οκτωβρίου 2013)

Θέμα: Απόλειψη ανυπόστατων αρνητικών ισχυρισμών σε σχολικά βιβλία ιστορίας στην Τουρκία

Σχολικά βιβλία ιστορίας που χρησιμοποιούνται στην Τουρκία περιέχουν ψευδείς ισχυρισμούς εις βάρος των μειονοτικών σχολείων και ανυπόστατους αρνητικούς ισχυρισμούς κατά των μειονοτήτων. Για παράδειγμα, το σχολικό βιβλίο ιστορίας που χρησιμοποιείται στην ενδέκατη τάξη αναφέρει ότι, κατά την τελευταία περίοδο της Οθωμανικής Αυτοκρατορίας, τα σχολεία για μειονότητες και αλλοδαπούς ήταν ένα και το αυτό και προωθούσαν εθνικιστικές πολιτικές (σ. 204-205). Ο ισχυρισμός αυτός δεν ανταποκρίνεται στην αλήθεια, δεδομένου ότι τα μειονοτικά σχολεία είχαν δημιουργηθεί από πολίτες της Οθωμανικής Αυτοκρατορίας και είχαν μεγάλη συμβολή στην κοινωνική και οικονομική ανάπτυξη της χώρας. Επιπλέον, το βιβλίο ιστορίας της δωδέκατης τάξης περιέχει έναν ψευδέστατο ισχυρισμό για το Πατριαρχείο, σε σχέση με το κυπριακό ζήτημα (σ. 161). Είναι σημαντικό οι επαναλαμβανόμενοι και ψευδείς αυτοί ισχυρισμοί να απαλειφθούν.

Πώς μπορεί η Επιτροπή να συμβάλει στο θέμα αυτό, λαμβανομένου υπόψη ότι η Τουρκία επιθυμεί να γίνει μέλος της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης;

Απάντηση του κ. Füle εξ ονόματος της Επιτροπής
(12 Δεκεμβρίου 2013)

Η Επιτροπή ευχαριστεί το Αξιότιμο Μέλος του Κοινοβουλίου για το ότι επέστησε την προσοχή της στα θέματα αυτά και σκοπεύει να τα θίξει στις τουρκικές αρχές με την επόμενη κατάλληλη ευκαιρία.

Η Επιτροπή έχει εγείρει παρεμφερή ζητήματα με τις τουρκικές αρχές στο παρελθόν, με πνεύμα που ευνοεί την επίλυσή τους.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012073/13
to the Commission**

Antigoni Papadopoulou (S&D)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Elimination of unfounded negative claims in history textbooks in Turkey

History textbooks used in Turkey still contain false statements hostile to minority schools and unfounded negative claims against minorities. As an example, the history textbook used in the eleventh year of school states that during the last period of the Ottoman Empire minority and foreign schools were one and the same thing and promoted nationalist policies (p. 204-205). This is not true, since the minority schools were established by citizens of the Ottoman Empire and contributed greatly to the social and economic development of the country. Additionally, the history textbook for the twelfth year includes a totally false statement about the Patriarchate, related to the Cyprus issue (p. 161). It is important that such persisting false statements are eliminated.

How can the Commission help in this direction, since Turkey wishes to join the European Union?

Answer given by Mr Füle on behalf of the Commission

(12 December 2013)

The Commission thanks the Honourable Member for bringing the issues to its attention and intends to raise them with the Turkish authorities on the next appropriate occasion.

The Commission has raised similar issues with the Turkish authorities in the past in a spirit conducive to their resolution.

(Version française)

Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012075/13
à la Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D)
(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Droits sexuels absents des programmes de santé de l'Union européenne

Nous déplorons vivement que la proposition de programme «La santé en faveur de la croissance» pour la période 2014-2020 ne fasse aucune mention des SDSDG (santé et droits sexuels et génésiques).

1. Pourquoi n'est-ce pas le cas?
2. La Commission va-t-elle suivre la recommandation du Parlement et inclure les SDSDG dans sa prochaine stratégie européenne en matière de santé publique?

Réponse donnée par M. Borg au nom de la Commission
(3 décembre 2013)

Les programmes de santé, précédents et actuel, ont effectivement servi à financer des projets visant à améliorer l'information sur la santé sexuelle et génésique.

L'objectif général du nouveau programme de santé pour la période 2014-2020 qui, à la suite de l'accord récemment conclu en trilogue, devrait être officiellement adopté par le Parlement et le Conseil au début de l'année 2014, est d'œuvrer avec les États membres à l'amélioration tant des systèmes de soins que de la santé de la population de l'UE.

Ce nouveau programme est de nature essentiellement horizontale. Il vise par exemple à contribuer à la prévention des maladies chroniques en général et à l'échange de bonnes pratiques. En tant que tel, le programme n'est pas organisé en fonction de thèmes spécifiques. Des mesures concrètes seront décidées chaque année, sur la base d'un programme de travail annuel. Les propositions qui présentent la plus forte valeur ajoutée, ont des répercussions importantes et génèrent des retours sur investissement élevés bénéficieront d'un soutien.

Toute action menée à l'échelle de l'UE dans le domaine de la santé doit respecter les limites fixées par l'article 168 du traité sur le fonctionnement de l'Union européenne, selon lequel «celle-ci respecte les responsabilités des États membres en ce qui concerne la définition de leur politique de santé, ainsi que l'organisation et la fourniture de services de santé et de soins médicaux».

En ce qui concerne le rapport du Parlement sur les droits en matière de santé sexuelle et génésique, la Commission attend les résultats du vote en plénière.

(English version)

Question for written answer E-012075/13
to the Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D)
(23 October 2013)

Subject: Lack of any reference to sexual rights in the European Union's health programmes

We greatly regret the fact that the proposed Health for Growth Programme (2014-2020) makes no reference to SRHR (sexual and reproductive health and rights).

1. Why is this the case?
2. Will the Commission follow Parliament's suggestion and include SRHR in its next European public health strategy?

Answer given by Mr Borg on behalf of the Commission
(3 December 2013)

The current and previous Health Programmes have indeed financed projects to improve information on reproductive and sexual health.

The overall objective of the new Health Programme 2014-2020 — to be formally adopted by the Parliament and Council in early 2014 following agreement recently reached in trilogue — is to work with Member States both to improve health systems and the health of the EU population.

The new programme is mostly horizontal in nature. For example it seeks to help prevent chronic diseases in general and exchange of best practice. As such, the programme is not organised according to specific themes. Concrete actions will be decided every year on the basis of an annual work programme. Proposals with the most added-value and with high impact and high returns will be supported.

Any EU level action in the health area must recognise the limits set by Art.168 of the Treaty on the functioning of the EU according to which 'the Union shall respect the responsibilities of the Member States for the definition of their health policy and for the organisation and delivery of health services and medical care.'

Regarding the Parliament's Report on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights, the Commission is awaiting the result of the vote in the Plenary.

(Version française)

Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012076/13

à la Commission

Marc Tarabella (S&D)

(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Accès à l'information pour les grossesses VIH

Comment la Commission pourrait-elle simplifier l'accès aux informations, aux vaccins et aux soins conçus pour empêcher que les fœtus ne contractent le VIH pendant la grossesse et pour le traiter à temps après la naissance?

Réponse donnée par M. Borg au nom de la Commission

(3 décembre 2013)

La prévention et le traitement du VIH/SIDA relèvent en premier lieu de la responsabilité des autorités nationales des États membres. Soucieuse de soutenir et de compléter les politiques nationales, la Commission a mis en place, autour de la question du VIH/SIDA, un cadre politique qu'elle présente dans la communication intitulée «La lutte contre le VIH/SIDA dans l'Union européenne et les pays voisins, 2009-2013». Au moyen de ce cadre, la Commission soutient les actions qui contribuent à la prévention et au traitement du VIH/SIDA.

Le Centre européen de prévention et de contrôle des maladies a, en outre, élaboré des lignes de conduite sur la prévention du VIH et sur le traitement de la maladie, qui s'étend à la prévention de la transmission mère-enfant. Le document est à la disposition du public à l'adresse suivante:

<http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications/publications/hiv-treatment-as-prevention.pdf>

En outre, la Commission soutient l'échange de meilleures pratiques en matière de prévention, de détection et de traitement du VIH/SIDA dans le cadre du programme de santé de l'UE.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012076/13
to the Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: Access to information about HIV pregnancies

How could the Commission ensure easier access to information, vaccines and care packages aimed at preventing HIV transmission during pregnancy and treating it during the postnatal period?

**Answer given by Mr Borg on behalf of the Commission
(3 December 2013)**

Prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS is primarily a responsibility of the national authorities in the Member States. To support and complement such national policies, the Commission established a policy framework on HIV/AIDS presented in the communication 'Combating HIV/AIDS in the European Union and neighbouring countries, 2009-2013'. Through this framework the Commission supports action to help prevent and treat HIV/AIDS.

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control has further developed guidance on HIV prevention and on treatment, which includes the prevention of mother-to-child transmission. The relevant document is publicly available at:

<http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications/publications/hiv-treatment-as-prevention.pdf>

In addition, the Commission supports exchange of best practice on prevention, detection and treatment of HIV/AIDS under the EU Health Programme.

(Version française)

Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012078/13

à la Commission

Marc Tarabella (S&D)

(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Droits sexuels et coopération

Pourquoi la Commission n'a-t-elle pas prévu une ligne spéciale sur la santé sexuelle et reproductive et les droits sexuels et reproductifs dans le cadre des lignes thématiques de l'instrument de coopération au développement, ainsi que des crédits suffisants pour l'ensemble du programme en la matière dans tous les instruments concernés?

Compte-t-elle le faire?

Réponse donnée par M. Piebalgs au nom de la Commission

(18 décembre 2013)

La Commission élabore actuellement de nouveaux programmes thématiques au titre du CPF, portant sur les «aides aux acteurs non étatiques» et les «biens publics mondiaux et défis qui les accompagnent». Ces programmes viendront compléter les programmes bilatéraux et ne feront pas double emploi avec les actions qui peuvent être couvertes dans le cadre de la coopération géographique. Ils seront donc par nature ciblés et stratégiques. Le programme concernant les biens publics mondiaux et les défis qui les accompagnent, par exemple, apportera son soutien aux secteurs sociaux, notamment à la santé dans les domaines où une approche mondiale apporte une valeur ajoutée ⁽¹⁾. Quant au programme en faveur des acteurs non étatiques, il contribuera à favoriser les initiatives de développement des ONG dans différents secteurs au niveau national. S'il y a lieu, le Parlement européen sera consulté sur ces programmes.

Réduire les inégalités, promouvoir une approche en faveur des pauvres, favoriser l'accès à des services de santé essentiels de qualité et améliorer les systèmes de santé sont des éléments importants de la nouvelle politique de développement de l'UE, définie dans le programme pour le changement ⁽²⁾, ainsi que dans les conclusions du Conseil sur le programme post-OMD ⁽³⁾ et sur le rôle de l'UE en matière de santé dans le monde ⁽⁴⁾. Les femmes, les enfants et les jeunes devraient être les principaux bénéficiaires de cette approche, car ils sont particulièrement vulnérables et souffrent souvent d'un manque d'accès aux services de santé, y compris aux services de santé sexuelle et génésique.

Améliorer la santé et les droits en matière sexuelle et génésique exige également des actions dans des domaines du développement autres que le secteur traditionnel de la santé: Droits de l'homme, égalité des sexes, enseignement, emploi, protection sociale et renforcement des capacités des jeunes. La Commission estime que la conjugaison des nouveaux programmes thématiques en projet et de la coopération bilatérale et géographique au niveau national constituera une bonne combinaison d'instruments à même de promouvoir les droits sexuels et génésiques dans nos pays partenaires.

⁽¹⁾ C'est notamment le cas pour ce qui est de l'accès aux médicaments et du soutien aux initiatives mondiales en matière de santé, comme le Fonds mondial de lutte contre le sida, la tuberculose et le paludisme.

⁽²⁾ COM(2011) 637 final.

⁽³⁾ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/137606.pdf (en anglais seulement).

⁽⁴⁾ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/FR/foraff/114352.pdf (en anglais seulement).

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012078/13
to the Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: Sexual rights and cooperation

Why has the Commission not allowed for a specific line on sexual and reproductive health and rights under the thematic lines of the Development Cooperation Instrument, or sufficient funding for the broad SRHR agenda in all appropriate instruments?

Does it intend to do so?

**Answer given by Mr Piebalgs on behalf of the Commission
(18 December 2013)**

The Commission is preparing new thematic programmes under the MFF, grouped under 'aid to Non-State Actors' (NSA) and 'Global Public Goods and Challenges' (GPGC). They are complementary to bilateral programmes and will not duplicate actions that can be covered in geographical cooperation. The new programmes will therefore be focused and strategic by nature. The GPGC programme, for instance, will provide support to social sectors including health in the areas where a global approach adds value ⁽¹⁾, and the NSA programme will provide support to NGO's development initiatives in many different sectors at country level. The European Parliament will be consulted on these programmes, as appropriate.

Reducing inequality, a pro-poor approach, increasing access to good quality essential health services and improving health systems are important parts of the new EU development policy as defined in the Agenda for Change ⁽²⁾, the Council conclusions on the post MDG agenda ⁽³⁾, and the EU Role on Global Health ⁽⁴⁾. It is expected that women, children and youth will be the main beneficiaries of this approach as they are particularly vulnerable and often lacking access to health services, including to sexual and reproductive health services.

Better sexual and reproductive health and rights also require action in other development fields outside the traditional health sector: improving human rights and gender equality, providing education, job creation, social protection and empowering of young people. The Commission considers that the draft new thematic programmes and geographical and bilateral cooperation at country level will provide a good mix of instruments to pursue SRHR in our partner countries.

⁽¹⁾ Access to medicines, support to global health initiatives such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS Tuberculosis and Malaria.
⁽²⁾ COM(2011) 637 final.
⁽³⁾ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/137606.pdf
⁽⁴⁾ http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/EN/foraff/114352.pdf

(Version française)

Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012079/13

à la Commission

Marc Tarabella (S&D)

(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Plan d'orientation

Le Parlement européen, durant sa session plénière, à travers le rapport Crețu, a demandé à la Commission d'élaborer des plans d'orientation et d'application en faveur d'une approche de la coopération au développement de l'Union fondée sur les Droits de l'homme, en concertation avec les organisations de la société civile, et à poursuivre la mise en œuvre des orientations de l'Union concernant les défenseurs des Droits de l'homme.

Que compte proposer la Commission à cet effet?

Réponse donnée par M. Piebalgs au nom de la Commission

(2 décembre 2013)

Les questions de l'Honorable Parlementaire sont identiques aux demandes formulées par le Parlement dans sa résolution «Autorités locales et société civile: engagement de l'Europe en faveur du développement durable», publiée le 22 octobre 2013. La Commission communiquera sa réponse au Parlement conformément aux règles applicables en matière de suites données par la Commission aux résolutions non législatives adoptées par le Parlement.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012079/13
to the Commission**

Marc Tarabella (S&D)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Guidance plan

The Crețu report adopted during Parliament's last part-session calls on the Commission to develop guidance and implementation plans for a human-rights based approach to EU development cooperation in dialogue with civil society organisations and to further the implementation of the European Union Guidelines on Human Rights Defenders.

What measures will the Commission propose in response?

Answer given by Mr Piebalgs on behalf of the Commission

(2 December 2013)

The Honourable Member's enquiries are identical to the requests formulated by Parliament in its Resolution on local authorities and civil society: Europe's engagement in support of sustainable development adopted on 22 October 2013. The Commission will inform Parliament of its reply in accordance with the rules in force concerning the follow-up by the Commission regarding non-legislative resolutions adopted by Parliament.

(Version française)

Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012080/13

à la Commission

Marc Tarabella (S&D)

(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Approche globale des SDGS et du VIH

La Commission compte-t-elle aborder la question spécifique des SDGS et des besoins des femmes vivant avec le VIH dans le cadre d'une approche globale visant à limiter cette épidémie?

En effet, cet objectif pourrait être atteint en généralisant l'accès aux programmes de soins de santé sexuelle et génésique, en intégrant l'accès au dépistage et au traitement du VIH/sida, en offrant des services de soutien, de conseil et de prévention, et en remédiant aux facteurs socio-économiques contribuant au risque pour les femmes de contracter le VIH/sida, comme les inégalités entre hommes et femmes, la discrimination, et l'absence de mécanismes de protection des droits fondamentaux.

Quel est l'avis de la Commission sur le sujet?

Réponse donnée par M. Borg au nom de la Commission

(11 décembre 2013)

Les traités ont accordé des compétences limitées à l'Union européenne en matière de santé et de soins de santé. L'organisation et la fourniture de services de santé et de soins médicaux et la gestion et l'allocation des ressources relèvent de la compétence des États membres.

Soucieuse de compléter et de soutenir les politiques nationales, la Commission a mis en place un cadre politique sur le VIH/SIDA au moyen de la communication intitulée «La lutte contre le VIH/SIDA dans l'Union européenne et les pays voisins».

Toute forme de discrimination ou de stigmatisation liée au VIH/SIDA est inacceptable. La Commission européenne s'est engagée à s'occuper de la prévention et du traitement du VIH/SIDA et des discriminations dans le secteur de la santé, en coopérant avec les États membres dans la lutte contre les inégalités.

Le programme d'action de l'UE en matière de santé soutient un ensemble d'initiatives visant à éliminer les inégalités associées au VIH/SIDA. Celles-ci incluent: le soutien à un réseau européen en faveur de l'inclusion sociale et de la santé; la coopération avec l'Organisation mondiale de la santé sur des stratégies de réduction des risques; et l'amélioration de l'accès aux tests VIH pour les groupes marginaux. La Commission poursuivra sa surveillance des maladies sexuellement transmissibles et du VIH, qui est indispensable à la prévention et au traitement.

La Commission a organisé en octobre 2013 un atelier sur les discriminations dans l'accès aux soins de santé, — y compris les discriminations en raison de l'orientation sexuelle et du type de maladie, par exemple le SIDA, — et prépare une conférence sur la lutte contre les discriminations en matière de santé qui aura lieu au printemps de 2014.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012080/13
to the Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: A holistic approach to sexual and reproductive health and rights and HIV

Will the Commission address the specific sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and needs of women living with HIV, as part of a holistic approach to curbing the epidemic?

This could be achieved by expanding access to sexual and reproductive healthcare programmes, integrating access to HIV/AIDS testing and treatment, providing peer-support, counselling and prevention services, and reversing the underlying socioeconomic factors contributing to women's HIV/AIDS risk, such as gender inequality, discrimination and lack of human rights protection.

What is the Commission's opinion on this matter?

**Answer given by Mr Borg on behalf of the Commission
(11 December 2013)**

In relation to health and healthcare, the Treaties have granted limited competence to the European Union. The organisation and delivery of health services and medical care, and the management and allocation of resources are the competence of the individual Member States.

To complement and support national policies, in 2009 the Commission established a policy framework on HIV/AIDS through the communication 'Combating HIV/AIDS in the European Union and neighbouring countries'.

Any form of HIV/AIDS related discrimination and stigmatisation is unacceptable. The European Commission is committed to working on prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, and to addressing discrimination in health, working together with Member States to fight inequalities.

The EU Health Programme has supported a range of initiatives to address inequalities linked to HIV/AIDS. These include: support for a European Network on Social Inclusion and Health; work with the World Health Organisation on strategies on harm reduction; and improving access to HIV testing for marginal groups. The Commission will continue surveillance of sexually transmitted infections and HIV, which is indispensable for prevention and treatment.

The Commission organised in October 2013 a workshop on discrimination in access to healthcare — including discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and type of condition e.g. AIDS — and is convening conference on fighting discrimination in health in spring 2014.

(Version française)

**Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012081/13
à la Commission**

Marc Tarabella (S&D)

(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Taux d'exécution automatique pour les projets de préadhésion à l'Union

Nous regrettons que la Commission ne dispose pas d'un instrument qui permette de fournir un taux d'exécution de manière automatique pour les projets de préadhésion à l'Union. Soulignons que les connaissances relatives au taux d'exécution sont essentielles pour assurer le suivi de l'efficacité de la mise en œuvre des projets et, par conséquent, pour détecter assez vite d'éventuels goulets d'étranglement.

Dès lors, la Commission pourrait-elle rassembler semestriellement les données relatives au taux d'exécution des projets pour lesquels une aide de préadhésion est octroyée par l'Union?

Réponse donnée par M. Füle au nom de la Commission

(10 décembre 2013)

La Commission encode systématiquement les informations sur les engagements, les contrats et les paiements relatifs à la mise en œuvre de l'aide de préadhésion. Ces informations fournissent des détails en termes de taux d'exécution pour l'ensemble d'un programme, ainsi que par contrat spécifique, permettant d'assurer une gestion efficace de l'aide et d'adopter en temps utile les mesures correctives nécessaires.

Des mises à jour mensuelles sur les engagements et les décaissements liés à l'aide de préadhésion sont publiées sur le site internet du registre de l'initiative internationale pour la transparence de l'aide (IATI), pour chaque pays bénéficiaire. Ces données couvrent l'ensemble des engagements par projet, ainsi que les dépenses effectuées; elles sont fournies au format XML, permettant ainsi l'extraction de données sur le taux d'exécution par projet.

Un rapport semestriel, généralisé, sur les taux d'exécution ne permettrait pas de tirer des conclusions valables, puisqu'il combinerait des projets assortis de délais d'exécution différents, et ne tiendrait pas compte de la nature différente et des spécificités de chaque projet.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012081/13
to the Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: Automated execution rate for European Union pre-accession projects

We regret that the Commission does not have a tool to provide an automated execution rate for the EU pre-accession projects and emphasise that knowledge on execution rate is crucial in order to monitor the efficient implementation of projects and, therefore, in order to point out potential bottlenecks at an early stage.

Could the Commission therefore centralise data on a six-monthly basis on the execution rate of the projects for which EU pre-accession assistance is allocated?

**Answer given by Mr Füle on behalf of the Commission
(10 December 2013)**

The Commission systematically encodes information on commitments, contracts and payments relating to the implementation of pre-accession assistance. This information provides the status in terms of execution rate for an overall programme, as well as for a specific contract, with the aim of efficiently managing the assistance and adopting the necessary corrective measures in a timely manner.

Monthly updates on commitments and disbursements relating to pre-accession assistance are published on the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) registry website, for each beneficiary country. This includes total commitments per project as well as the disbursements made. The data is provided in XML format, thus allowing the extraction of data on the execution rate per project.

A half-yearly, generalised execution rate would not allow for any meaningful conclusions, since it would combine projects with different execution periods, and without taking into account the differing nature and specificities of the individual projects.

(Version française)

Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012082/13
à la Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D)
(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Rapport d'étape sur la stratégie Europe 2020

Il faut saluer la publication par certains États membres de rapports d'étape sur la stratégie Europe 2020, qui exposent dans certains cas les grandes lignes des projets visant à réaliser les objectifs fixés.

Mais pourquoi la Commission n'a-t-elle pas présenté de rapport d'étape sur la stratégie Europe 2020?

Pourrait-elle, comme le lui demande le Parlement, présenter chaque année un tel rapport?

Réponse donnée par M. Barroso au nom de la Commission
(12 décembre 2013)

La Commission souhaite informer l'Honorable Parlementaire que les progrès concernant la stratégie Europe 2020 et ses grands objectifs font l'objet d'un suivi régulier dans le cadre du semestre européen et, tout particulièrement, lors de la présentation par la Commission des recommandations par pays. Cet exercice fait partie intégrante de la coordination des politiques économiques au niveau de l'UE et tient pleinement compte des programmes nationaux de réforme des États membres.

La dernière évaluation a eu lieu en mai 2013. Le chapitre 4 du document de travail des services de la Commission pour chaque État membre, qui accompagne les recommandations par pays pour 2013, contient des informations sur les progrès accomplis dans la réalisation des objectifs de la stratégie Europe 2020 ⁽¹⁾.

Cette année, la Commission a également présenté un document de travail sur l'état d'avancement de la mise en œuvre des recommandations par pays, accompagnant l'examen annuel de la croissance 2014 ⁽²⁾.

En vue du Conseil européen de mars 2014, la Commission adoptera une communication visant à permettre au Conseil européen de faire le point sur les progrès réalisés concernant la stratégie Europe 2020 et ses grands objectifs.

⁽¹⁾ Une vue d'ensemble de tous les documents de travail des services de la Commission ainsi que des programmes nationaux de réforme est disponible sur le site web de la Commission consacré à la stratégie Europe 2020: http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/making-it-happen/country-specific-recommendations/index_fr.htm

⁽²⁾ SWD(2013) 800 final du 13 novembre 2013.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012082/13
to the Commission**

Marc Tarabella (S&D)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Europe 2020 progress report

We should welcome the fact that some Member States have submitted Europe 2020 progress reports, in some cases outlining specific projects for achieving the targets.

Why, then, has the Commission not presented a Europe 2020 progress report?

Could the Commission comply with Parliament's request by presenting such a report annually?

Answer given by Mr Barroso on behalf of the Commission

(12 December 2013)

The Commission would like to inform the Honourable Member that progress on the Europe 2020 strategy and its headline targets is regularly monitored in the context of the European semester and in particular at the moment when the Commission presents the country specific recommendations. This exercise forms an integral part of economic policy coordination at the EU level and fully reflects Member States' National Reform Programmes.

The latest assessment took place in May 2013. Information on progress towards targets of the Europe 2020 strategy is contained in Chapter 4 of the Commission staff working document for each Member States accompanying the 2013 country specific recommendations ⁽¹⁾.

This year, together with the 2014 Annual Growth Survey, the Commission also presented a staff working document assessing progress on the overall implementation of the country-specific recommendations by each Member State ⁽²⁾.

In view of the March 2014 European Council, the Commission will adopt a communication to allow the European Council to take stock of progress on the Europe 2020 strategy and its headline targets.

⁽¹⁾ A full overview of all the Commission staff working documents as well as the National Reform Programmes is contained on the Commission's Europe 2020 website: http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/making-it-happen/country-specific-recommendations/index_en.htm

⁽²⁾ SWD(2013) 800 final of 13 November 2013.

(Version française)

Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012083/13

à la Commission

Marc Tarabella (S&D)

(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Processus de convergence au sein du semestre européen

La Commission pourrait-elle présenter d'urgence des propositions législatives en vue d'instaurer un véritable processus de convergence au sein du semestre européen, sur la base des objectifs Europe 2020, en incluant des incitations destinées à soutenir les États membres dans la mise en œuvre de réformes structurelles, par exemple un instrument de convergence et de compétitivité et des dispositions relatives à une coordination en amont des politiques économiques, fondées sur la méthode communautaire, en tant que première étape de la mise en place d'une capacité budgétaire européenne?

Réponse donnée par M. Rehn au nom de la Commission

(9 décembre 2013)

Le 20 mars 2013, la Commission a présenté deux communications consultatives, sur la création d'un «instrument de convergence et de compétitivité» et sur la coordination préalable des projets de grandes réformes des politiques économiques. Sur la base des informations obtenues en retour sur les options qu'elle présente dans ces deux communications, la Commission décidera de la voie à suivre au cours des prochains mois.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012083/13
to the Commission**

Marc Tarabella (S&D)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Convergence process within the European Semester

Could the Commission submit as a matter of urgency legislative proposals with the aim of creating a genuine convergence process within the European Semester, based on Europe 2020 objectives and including incentives to support Member States in the implementation of structural reforms, such as a competitiveness and convergence instrument, as well as provisions on *ex-ante* economic policy coordination based on the Community method as a first step towards a European fiscal capacity?

Answer given by Mr Rehn on behalf of the Commission

(9 December 2013)

On 20 March 2013 the Commission presented two consultative Communications: on the creation of a 'Convergence and Competitiveness Instrument' and on the *ex ante* coordination of plans for major economic reforms. On the basis of feedback on the options presented in the two Communications, the Commission will decide how to move forward in the course of the coming months.

(Version française)

**Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012084/13
à la Commission**

Marc Tarabella (S&D) et Jean Louis Cottigny (S&D)

(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Répercussions sociales des réformes

Nous saluons la déclaration de la Commission selon laquelle les mesures de soutien financier adoptées par les États membres et l'Union devraient davantage tenir compte des effets redistributifs des réformes.

Dès lors, la Commission pourrait-elle procéder à une évaluation ex-ante approfondie des répercussions sociales à court terme comme à long terme de toutes les nouvelles réformes recommandées, ainsi que tirer toutes les conclusions nécessaires des précédentes recommandations, y compris celles adressées aux États membres bénéficiant de programmes d'assistance financière?

Réponse donnée par M. Rehn au nom de la Commission

(23 décembre 2013)

L'évaluation ex ante des effets redistributifs des réformes requiert des outils analytiques complexes. L'un de ces outils est Euromod, un modèle harmonisé de microsimulation des effets des politiques fiscales, qui couvre l'ensemble de l'UE et dont le développement et la maintenance bénéficient du soutien du Fonds social européen (FSE).

La Commission accorde une grande attention à l'évolution de la situation sociale et à l'impact social des mesures décidées dans les États membres, y compris ceux qui sont concernés par des programmes. En témoigne l'examen annuel de la croissance pour 2013 et 2014, dans le cadre duquel la Commission a recommandé aux États membres de concevoir l'assainissement budgétaire de manière à en réduire le plus possible les effets négatifs sur les groupes à faible revenu, notamment en accordant une plus grande attention à l'incidence de la politique budgétaire sur l'équité sociale, et à préserver le potentiel de croissance future, notamment en protégeant les investissements dans l'éducation et en modernisant les systèmes de protection sociale.

En témoigne également la communication de la Commission intitulée «Renforcer la dimension sociale de l'Union économique et monétaire» ⁽¹⁾, qui propose de renforcer les instruments et les mécanismes de politique sociale et de l'emploi, au moyen notamment d'indicateurs clés en matière sociale et d'emploi dans le contexte du semestre européen pour la coordination des politiques économiques. Plus récemment, le projet de rapport conjoint sur l'emploi accompagnant l'examen annuel de la croissance 2014 a présenté une première application de ce principe, sur la base du «tableau de bord social» ⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ COM(2013) 690 final du 2 octobre 2013.

⁽²⁾ COM(2013)801 final du 13 novembre 2013.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012084/13
to the Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D) and Jean Louis Cottigny (S&D)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: Social impact of reforms

We commend the Commission's statement that financial support measures taken by Member States and the EU should devote greater attention to the distributional impact of reforms.

Could the Commission therefore carry out a thorough *ex-ante* assessment of both the short- and long-term social impact of all the new recommended reforms and derive all the necessary conclusions from previous recommendations, including those made to Member States under financial assistance programmes?

**Answer given by Mr Rehn on behalf of the Commission
(23 December 2013)**

Assessing *ex-ante* the distributional impact of reforms requires complex analytical tools. One of such tools is EUROMOD, a harmonised tax-benefit micro-simulation model covering the whole EU whose development and maintenance is supported through the European Social Fund (ESF) .

The Commission is paying great attention to social developments and to the social impact of measures decided in MS, including in programme countries. This is reflected in the AGS for 2013 and 2014, where the Commission recommends MS to devise fiscal consolidation in such a way to minimise adverse effects on low-income groups, notably by paying increased attention to the influence of fiscal policy on social equity, and to preserve future growth potential, including by protecting investment in education and by modernising social protection systems.

This is also reflected in the Commission Communication on strengthening the Social Dimension of the EMU ⁽¹⁾, which proposes to reinforce the monitoring tools in the employment and social field, notably by using key employment and social indicators within the European Semester. More recently, in the Draft Joint Employment Report accompanying the AGS2014 a first application of this monitoring has been conducted via the so-called social scoreboard. ⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ COM(2013) 690 final of 2 October 2013.

⁽²⁾ COM(2013) 801 final of 13 November 2013.

(Version française)

**Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012085/13
à la Commission**

Marc Tarabella (S&D) et Jean Louis Cottigny (S&D)

(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Union économique et monétaire plus sociale

La Commission pourrait-elle présenter des propositions législatives visant à compléter l'UEM, qui devrait comporter un volet social et instaurer un pacte social pour l'Europe, comme l'a recommandé le Parlement dans sa résolution du 20 novembre 2012 intitulée «Vers une véritable Union économique et monétaire» (P7_TA(2012)0430), étant donné que les stabilisateurs automatiques nationaux sont bloqués dans les États membres où ils sont les plus nécessaires?

La Commission pourrait-elle mettre en place, à cet effet, un tableau de bord autonome lié à la dimension sociale de l'UEM?

Partage-t-elle l'avis selon lequel les examens approfondis prévus dans la procédure de déséquilibre macroéconomique pourraient permettre d'évaluer régulièrement les politiques sociales et d'emploi en vue de recenser celles qui atténuent les problèmes sociaux et favorisent l'emploi?

Selon la Commission, ce système de contrôle renforcé contribuerait-il bien, comme nous le pensons, à une coordination plus efficace des politiques en vue de recenser et de relever les principaux défis en temps utile et de mieux intégrer au paysage politique global les enjeux dans le domaine social et de l'emploi?

Réponse donnée par M. Andor au nom de la Commission

(17 décembre 2013)

La Commission reconnaît l'importance d'un suivi accru de la situation des États membres en matière d'emploi et de conditions sociales, en vue de parvenir à une conception et à une coordination plus éclairées des politiques de l'Union. Faisant suite à la proposition formulée dans sa communication intitulée «Renforcer la dimension sociale de l'Union économique et monétaire»⁽¹⁾, la Commission a intégré dans son projet de rapport conjoint sur l'emploi⁽²⁾ un tableau de bord d'indicateurs clés en matière sociale et d'emploi. Il vise à recenser et à mettre en évidence les grands problèmes qui, dans ces deux domaines, sont déterminants pour le bon fonctionnement de l'UEM. Ces indicateurs permettront de cerner les phénomènes essentiels pour chaque État membre et de mieux comprendre la dynamique des écarts socio-économiques, et contribueront à leur apporter une réponse politique efficace en temps utile. Le tableau de bord orientera la fixation de priorités stratégiques dès le semestre européen 2014 et viendra alimenter la surveillance multilatérale des États membres.

La Commission a également intégré, en nombre limité, des indicateurs auxiliaires sur les questions sociales et l'emploi dans son rapport sur le mécanisme d'alerte établi conformément à la procédure concernant les déséquilibres macroéconomiques⁽³⁾. L'objectif est de mieux comprendre l'évolution de la situation sociale dans les pays qui souffrent de déséquilibres macroéconomiques et lors des processus d'ajustement macroéconomique.

⁽¹⁾ COM(2013) 690 du 2.10.2013.

⁽²⁾ COM(2013) 801 du 13.11.2013.

⁽³⁾ COM(2013) 790 du 13.11.2013.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012085/13
to the Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D) and Jean Louis Cottigny (S&D)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: A more social Economic and Monetary Union

Would it be possible for the Commission to submit legislative proposals to complete the EMU through a social pillar and a social pact for Europe, as recommended by Parliament in its resolution of 20 November 2012 entitled 'Towards a genuine Economic and Monetary Union' (P7_TA(2012)0430), given that the national automatic stabilisers are blocked in the Member States where they are most needed?

To this end, would it be possible for the Commission to establish a standalone scoreboard related to the EMU social dimension?

Does it agree that the in-depth reviews provided for in the Macroeconomic Imbalances Procedure could regularly review employment and social policies with a view to identifying those policies that mitigate social problems and improve employment?

Does the Commission agree that this enhanced monitoring system would help to coordinate policies more effectively with a view to identifying and tackling major challenges in a timely fashion and integrating employment and social concerns more effectively in the overall policy landscape?

**Answer given by Mr Andor on behalf of the Commission
(17 December 2013)**

The Commission agrees that enhanced monitoring of the employment and social situations in the Member States is important for better-informed EU policy formulation and coordination. Following its proposal in the communication on strengthening the social dimension of the Economic and Monetary Union ⁽¹⁾ the Commission incorporated in the draft Joint Employment Report ⁽²⁾ a scoreboard of key employment and social indicators aiming to identify and highlight main employment and social problems relevant for the good functioning of the EMU. These indicators will permit to capture key phenomena for each Member State, better understand the dynamics of socioeconomic divergence and help ensure timely and effective policy response. The scoreboard will inform the setting of policy priorities already in the context of the 2014 European Semester and feed into Member States' multilateral surveillance.

The Commission also incorporated a limited number of auxiliary employment and social indicators in the Alert Mechanism Report under the Macroeconomic Imbalances Procedure ⁽³⁾ so as to better understand social developments in countries suffering from macroeconomic imbalances and during macroeconomic adjustment processes.

⁽¹⁾ COM(2013) 690 of 02.10.2013.

⁽²⁾ COM(2013) 801 of 13.11.2013.

⁽³⁾ COM(2013) 790 of 13.11.2013.

(Version française)

**Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012086/13
à la Commission**

Marc Tarabella (S&D) et Jean Louis Cottigny (S&D)

(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Parlement et semestre européen

Le semestre européen ne doit en aucune façon porter atteinte aux prérogatives du Parlement européen ou à celles des parlements nationaux.

La Commission peut-elle nous garantir la participation formelle et adéquate du Parlement européen à toutes les étapes du processus du semestre européen afin de renforcer la légitimité des décisions qui concernent tous les citoyens?

Quels sont les moyens que la Commission pourrait utiliser afin de renforcer la visibilité dudit processus?

Réponse donnée par M. Barroso au nom de la Commission

(12 décembre 2013)

La Commission tient à rassurer l'Honorable Parlementaire et à lui garantir qu'elle soutient le rôle actif joué par le Parlement européen dans le nouveau dialogue économique, tout en l'encourageant à le poursuivre. Le dialogue économique instauré par le train de mesures sur la gouvernance économique («six-pack») prévoit une procédure transparente en matière de contrôle démocratique dans le domaine de la politique économique. La Commission accueille aussi favorablement la contribution du Parlement au semestre européen par ses résolutions, régulières et présentées en temps voulu, relatives au semestre européen pour la coordination des politiques économiques ainsi qu'à l'examen annuel de la croissance. La Commission soutient pleinement la Semaine parlementaire sur le semestre européen, qui a été organisée pour la première fois en janvier 2013 et permet d'accroître la visibilité du semestre européen au niveau national et de mieux le faire connaître.

En ce qui concerne la participation des parlements nationaux au semestre européen, la Commission encourage les États membres, dans ses lettres d'orientation régulières concernant l'élaboration des programmes nationaux de réforme, à associer les parties concernées à l'élaboration et à la mise en œuvre de ces programmes. Elle a également invité les États membres, dans son dernier examen annuel de la croissance ⁽¹⁾, à renforcer l'appropriation au niveau national et la participation des parlements nationaux. Les procédures nationales ne relèvent toutefois pas des compétences de la Commission. La Commission est, néanmoins, prête à répondre aux invitations des parlements nationaux pour débattre du semestre européen. Enfin, en vertu du nouveau règlement (UE) n° 473/2013, la Commission envoie désormais une copie de son avis concernant les projets de plans budgétaires des États membres de la zone euro directement aux parlements nationaux des États membres concernés. Cette nouvelle procédure facilite également les travaux des parlements nationaux relatifs au semestre européen.

⁽¹⁾ COM(2013) 800 du 13.11.2013.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012086/13
to the Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D) and Jean Louis Cottigny (S&D)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: Parliament and the European Semester

The European Semester must in no way jeopardise the prerogatives of the European Parliament or the national parliaments.

Can the Commission ensure the proper formal involvement of Parliament in all the steps of the European Semester process in order to increase the legitimacy of decisions which affect all citizens?

How could the Commission make this process more visible?

**Answer given by Mr Barroso on behalf of the Commission
(12 December 2013)**

The Commission would like to reassure the Honourable Member that it supports the active role of the European Parliament in the new Economic Dialogue, and encourages the Parliament to continue taking it forward. The Economic Dialogue introduced by the Six-Pack provides for a transparent process of democratic accountability in the area of economic policy. The Commission also welcomes the contribution the Parliament is making to the European Semester by way of its regular and timely resolutions on the European Semester for economic policy coordination and on the Annual Growth Survey. The Commission fully supports the Parliamentary week on the European Semester, organised for the first time in January 2013, as a good way to increase awareness and visibility of the European Semester at national level.

Regarding involvement of the national parliaments in the European Semester the Commission encourages Member States, in its regular guidance letters regarding the preparation of the National Reform Programmes, to involve stakeholders in their preparation and implementation. The Commission also called on the Member States to increase national ownership and involvement of national parliaments in its latest Annual Growth Survey⁽¹⁾. The national procedures are, however, not within the Commission's remit. The Commission, nevertheless, also stands ready to respond to invitations of national parliaments to discuss the European Semester. Finally, under the new Regulation (EU) No 473/2013 the Commission now addresses a copy of its opinion on the draft budgetary plans of the euro area Member States directly to the national parliaments of the concerned Member States. This new procedure also facilitates National Parliament's work in relation to the European Semester.

⁽¹⁾ COM(2013) 800 of 13 November 2013.

(Version française)

**Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012087/13
à la Commission**

Marc Tarabella (S&D) et Jean Louis Cottigny (S&D)

(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Cadre qualitatif relatif aux stages

La Commission pourrait-elle nous proposer un cadre qualitatif relatif aux stages, qui couvre notamment les critères de rémunération équitable, les objectifs pédagogiques, les conditions de travail et les normes de santé et de sécurité?

La Commission compte-t-elle mettre en œuvre l'alliance européenne pour l'apprentissage de manière plus ambitieuse?

Réponse donnée par M. Andor au nom de la Commission

(10 décembre 2013)

La Commission fera une proposition de recommandation du Conseil sur un cadre de qualité pour les apprentis à la fin de 2013. Cette proposition présentera l'avis de la Commission sur la manière de traiter les problèmes évoqués par l'Honorable parlementaire.

Depuis le lancement de l'Alliance le 2 juillet 2013, la Commission s'est assuré l'engagement d'importantes parties intéressées, notamment par une déclaration commune des partenaires sociaux européens, de la Commission européenne et de la présidence lituanienne du Conseil de l'UE; par la déclaration du Conseil adoptée par les États membres de l'UE le 15 octobre; par une trentaine d'engagements de prestataires d'enseignement et de formation professionnels (EFP), d'entreprises, de chambres de commerce, de l'industrie et de l'artisanat, de partenaires sociaux, d'organisations de jeunesse et autres; et par un groupe « d'ambassadeurs » de 13 entreprises souhaitant partager leurs connaissances et leur expérience avec des PME pour soutenir l'instauration d'un apprentissage de qualité dans toute l'Europe.

Étant donné que la réforme des systèmes d'enseignement et de formation professionnels relève avant tout de la compétence des États membres, la Commission a invité les États membres à prendre des engagements concrets conformément à la déclaration du Conseil. La Commission attend que les États membres incluent la réforme de l'apprentissage dans leurs plans de mise en œuvre de la garantie pour la jeunesse et utilisent le financement de l'UE et l'expertise technique disponible pour améliorer leurs systèmes, le cas échéant.

La page web de l'Alliance ⁽¹⁾, créée par la Commission, fournit un aperçu des divers éléments de l'initiative et des engagements pris jusqu'à présent. Elle sera actualisée avec les informations sur les réformes en cours ou prévues au niveau national.

⁽¹⁾ ec.europa.eu/apprenticeships-alliance

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012087/13
to the Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D) and Jean Louis Cottigny (S&D)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: Quality framework for traineeships

Would it be possible for the Commission to propose a quality framework for traineeships comprising, *inter alia*, criteria for proper remuneration, learning outcomes, working conditions and health and safety standards?

Does the Commission intend to implement the European Alliance for Apprenticeships in a more ambitious manner?

**Answer given by Mr Andor on behalf of the Commission
(10 December 2013)**

The Commission will make a proposal for Council Recommendation on a Quality Framework for Traineeships at the end of 2013. This proposal will set out Commission's views on how to address the elements pointed out by the Honourable Member.

Since launch of the Alliance on 2 July 2013, the Commission has secured the commitment of important stakeholders, notably by a Joint declaration by the European Social Partners, the European Commission and the Lithuanian Presidency of the European Union; the Council Declaration by the EU Member States adopted 15 October; some 30 pledges from vocational education and training (VET) providers, businesses, chambers of commerce, industry and crafts, social partners, youth organisations and others; a pool of 'ambassadors' of 13 companies willing to share their knowledge and experience with SMEs to support the establishment of quality apprenticeships all across Europe.

Given that the reform of VET and apprenticeship systems is first and foremost MS competence, the Commission has called on MS to make concrete commitments in line with the Council Declaration. The Commission expects that MS will include apprenticeship reform within their Youth Guarantee Implementation Plans, and use EU funding and available technical expertise to improve their systems where need be.

The Alliance webpage ⁽¹⁾, set up by the Commission, provides an overview of the different elements of the initiative and the pledges made so far. It will be updated with information on ongoing or planned reforms at national level.

⁽¹⁾ ec.europa.eu/apprenticeships-alliance

(Version française)

Question avec demande de réponse écrite E-012089/13

à la Commission

Marc Tarabella (S&D)

(23 octobre 2013)

Objet: Conflit Sahel

Étant donné que la résolution politique du conflit au Sahara occidental, la réconciliation et la situation des Droits de l'homme sont intrinsèquement liés, la Commission pourrait-elle prendre une part plus active dans la résolution du conflit au Sahara occidental, non seulement en soutenant les négociations des Nations unies, mais aussi en se servant de ses différents instruments de politique extérieure (par exemple, le renforcement de la surveillance et de la sensibilisation des forces policières et de sécurité aux Droits de l'homme, le soutien aux réformes démocratiques, notamment à la décentralisation et à la lutte contre la discrimination dans la région) pour favoriser une consolidation hautement nécessaire de la confiance entre les parties au conflit?

Réponse donnée par M^{me} Ashton, Vice-présidente/Haute Représentante au nom de la Commission

(6 décembre 2013)

En ce qui concerne la situation au Sahara occidental, l'UE ne cesse i) de faire part de sa préoccupation au sujet de ce conflit de longue durée et de ses conséquences sur la sécurité, le respect des Droits de l'homme et la coopération dans la région; ii) d'aborder des questions essentielles dans le cadre des réunions des organes mixtes institués par l'accord d'association UE-Maroc et d'inviter toutes les parties à s'abstenir de recourir à la violence et à respecter les Droits de l'homme. Ainsi, le 16 janvier 2013, à Rabat, la Vice-présidente/Haute Représentante s'est déclarée préoccupée par la situation des 24 militants sahraouis incarcérés à Salé à la suite des événements survenus à Laayoune les 8 et 9 novembre 2010, où 11 policiers marocains et deux civils sahraouis avaient trouvé la mort. La Vice-présidente/Haute Représentante a suivi attentivement avec les États membres le déroulement du procès au terme duquel les accusés ont été condamnés à de lourdes peines en janvier 2013; iii) d'exprimer son soutien aux Nations unies et de se prononcer en faveur de la résolution 2099 (2013) du Conseil de sécurité qui souligne «qu'il importe d'améliorer la situation des Droits de l'homme au Sahara occidental et dans les camps de Tindouf» et se félicite des mesures prises pour «renforcer les commissions du Conseil national des Droits de l'homme à Dakhla et Laayoune». Par ailleurs, l'UE soutient actuellement le Conseil national des Droits de l'homme (dont le mandat a été renforcé et officialisé par la réforme constitutionnelle de 2011) afin de consolider les capacités opérationnelles nécessaires pour enquêter sur des violations des Droits de l'homme et y remédier.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012089/13
to the Commission
Marc Tarabella (S&D)
(23 October 2013)**

Subject: Conflict in the Sahel

Considering that the political resolution to the Western Sahara conflict, reconciliation and the human rights situation are closely linked, could the Commission be more active in the resolution of the Western Sahara conflict, not only by supporting the UN negotiations but also by using its various external policy instruments (for example strengthening human rights monitoring and awareness among police and security forces, and supporting democratic reforms, including decentralisation and the fight against discrimination in the region) to promote much-needed confidence building between the conflict parties?

**Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Ashton on behalf of the Commission
(6 December 2013)**

In relation with the Western Sahara conflict, the EU is repeatedly and constantly (i) expressing concern about the long duration of the Western Sahara conflict and the implications for the security, respect of human rights and cooperation in the region; (ii) addressing critical issues in the meetings of the joint bodies established under the EU/Morocco Association Agreement and calling on all parties to restrain from violence and to respect human rights; for example, on 16 January 2013, the HR/VP expressed concern in Rabat about the situation of the 24 Saharawi activists in prison in Salé, accused in relation to events occurred around Laayoune on 8-9 November 2010 when 11 Moroccan policemen and two Saharawi civilians were killed. The HR/VP followed closely with the Member States the trial that was concluded on February 2013 with heavy sentences; (iii) expressing support to the UN and supports the Security Council Resolution 2099 (2013) which is 'stressing the importance of improving human rights situation in Western Sahara and the Tindouf camps' and 'welcoming the strengthening of the National Council on Human Rights Commissions operating in Dakhla and Laayoune'. Moreover, the EU is currently supporting the National Council on Human Rights (whose mandate has been reinforced and officialised by the 2011 Constitutional reform) with a view to strengthening its operational capacity in relation to investigating and remedying human rights abuses.

(Nederlandse versie)

**Vraag met verzoek om schriftelijk antwoord E-012090/13
aan de Commissie**

Laurence J. A. J. Stassen (NI)

(23 oktober 2013)

Betreft: Bağış: „Voortgangsverslag Turkije niet op „Religious Holiday” publiceren”

De Europese Commissie heeft haar „Turkey 2013 Progress Report” en „Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2013-2014” gepubliceerd. Dat gebeurde op 16 oktober 2013, en dat is — zo klaagt Egemen Bağış, de Turkse minister van Europese Zaken — de tweede dag van de Turkse „Religious Holiday”. Hij stelt dat de Turkse „Religious Holiday” een inspiratie is voor „liefde, vrede, vriendschap, broederschap, eenheid en solidariteit”. Daarom verzoekt hij de Commissie haar rapporten in het vervolg op een andere dag te publiceren — aangezien de EU een „unie van waarden” is.

1. Is de Commissie bekend met het „Statement by Egemen Bağış, Minister for EU Affairs and Chief Negotiator, on Turkey 2013 Progress Report of the European Commission” ⁽¹⁾?
2. Hoe ervaart de Commissie het dat de heer Bağış het „ongepast” vindt dat zij haar rapporten op de tweede dag van de Turkse „Religious Holiday” heeft gepresenteerd?
3. Hoe reageert de Commissie op het verzoek van de heer Bağış om haar rapporten in het vervolg op een andere dag te publiceren? Is de Commissie voornemens hierop in te gaan? Waarom wel/niet?
4. Impliceert de heer Bağış, naar het oordeel van de Commissie, dat de door haar gekozen dag voor publicatie van haar rapporten de waarden „liefde, vrede, vriendschap, broederschap, eenheid en solidariteit” ondermijnt? Zo neen, hoe interpreteert de Commissie de door de heer Bağış genoemde waarden en het daaraan gekoppelde verzoek om haar rapporten in het vervolg op een andere dag te publiceren dan wel?
5. Deelt de Commissie de mening dat dit een zoveelste voorbeeld van de stuitende Turkse arrogantie is? Zo neen, hoe ziet de Commissie deze kwestie dan wel?

Antwoord van de heer Füle namens de Commissie

(19 december 2013)

De Commissie is zich ervan bewust dat de Turkse autoriteiten liever gezien hadden dat het voortgangsverslag over Turkije van 2013 ⁽²⁾ op een andere dag was gepubliceerd. Helaas was dit niet haalbaar, omdat de goedkeuring van het gehele uitbreidingspakket daardoor zou zijn uitgesteld. Dit werd in detail besproken met onze Turkse collega's die deze beperkingen begrepen en dit blijkt geheel uit de verklaring van minister Bağış, waarnaar het geachte Parlementslid verwijst ⁽³⁾. Er zij op gewezen dat het voortgangsverslag van 2013 in Turkije en bij minister Bağış over het algemeen als eerlijk en evenwichtig werd aangemerkt.

Bovendien is het tijdstip van goedkeuring van het uitbreidingspakket nauw verbonden met de agenda van andere EU-instellingen, met name het Europees Parlement en de Raad. Deze agenda's zijn ruim van tevoren vastgesteld. De Commissie wijst er in dit verband op dat op 22 november een Raad Algemene Zaken plaatsvond, waarop het voortgangsverslag over Turkije van 2013 moest worden besproken.

⁽¹⁾ <http://egemenbagis.com/en/>

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key_documents/2012/package/strategy_paper_2012_nl.pdf

⁽³⁾ <http://egemenbagis.com/en/8231>

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012090/13
to the Commission**

Laurence J.A.J. Stassen (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Egemen Bağış: 'Do not publish the Turkey progress report on a religious holiday'

The European Commission has published its 'Turkey 2013 progress report' and its 'Enlargement strategy and main challenges 2013-2014'. It did so on 16 October 2013, which, Egemen Bağış, the Turkish Minister for EU Affairs, has complained, is the second day of Turkey's 'religious holiday'. He argues that the Turkish religious holiday is a source of inspiration for 'love, peace, friendship, brotherhood, unity and solidarity'. He is therefore asking the Commission to publish its reports on a different date in future, given that the EU is a 'union of values'.

1. Is the Commission familiar with the 'Statement by Egemen Bağış, Minister for EU Affairs and Chief Negotiator, on the Turkey 2013 Progress Report of the European Commission'? ⁽¹⁾
2. How does the Commission feel about the fact that Mr Bağış finds it inappropriate that it should have published its reports on the second day of the Turkish religious holiday?
3. What is the Commission's reaction to Mr Bağış's request for it to publish reports on a different date in future? Does the Commission intend to agree to this? Why so/why not?
4. In the Commission's view, is Mr Bağış implying that the date chosen by it for publication of its reports undermines the values of 'love, peace, friendship, brotherhood, unity and solidarity'? If not, how does the Commission interpret the values listed by Mr Bağış and the associated request for the Commission to publish its reports on a different date in future?
5. Does the Commission share the view that this is yet another example of Turkey's shocking arrogance? If not, what is the Commission's interpretation of this matter?

Answer given by Mr Füle on behalf of the Commission

(19 December 2013)

The Commission is aware that the Turkish authorities would have preferred for the 2013 Progress Report on Turkey ⁽²⁾ to have been published on a different day. Unfortunately, this was not feasible as it would have meant postponing the adoption of the entire enlargement package. This was discussed in detail with our Turkish counterparts, who showed understanding for these constraints, as is fully reflected in the statement by Minister Bağış mentioned by the Honourable Member. ⁽³⁾ It is to be noted that the 2013 Progress Report was broadly welcomed in Turkey as fair and balanced, including by Minister Bağış.

Moreover, the timing of the adoption of the enlargement package is closely related to the calendar of other EU institutions, namely the European Parliament and the Council. These calendars are set well in advance. The Commission would like to recall in this respect that a General Affairs Council took place on 22 November for which the 2013 Progress Report on Turkey was needed for discussion.

⁽¹⁾ <http://egemenbagis.com/en/>

⁽²⁾ http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/countries/strategy-and-progress-report/index_en.htm

⁽³⁾ <http://egemenbagis.com/en/8231>

(Deutsche Fassung)

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012092/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Papiermenge im Übersetzungsdienst der Kommission

Die Kommission unterhält einen eigenen Übersetzungsdienst.

1. Wie hoch war die Menge an Papier für übersetzte Unterlagen in den Jahren 2011, 2012 und 2013?
2. Wie viel Papier wurde entsorgt?
3. Wie viel Papier wurde dem Recycling zugeführt?

**Antwort von Herrn Šeřčovič im Namen der Kommission
(20. Dezember 2013)**

Die Europäische Kommission überwacht und berichtet über die Umweltauswirkungen ihrer Tätigkeit im Rahmen des Gemeinschaftssystems für das Umweltmanagement und die Umweltbetriebsprüfung (EMAS), das sich auf immer mehr Gebäude in Brüssel, Luxemburg und darüber hinaus erstreckt. Über die Ressourcenverwendung an den Standorten der Kommission in Brüssel und Luxemburg, einschließlich Papierverbrauch (zur allgemeinen Verwendung und zu Druckzwecken), wird jährlich berichtet. Der Papierverbrauch im Übersetzungsdienst belief sich 2011 auf 51 Tonnen, 2012 auf 46 Tonnen und dürfte sich 2013 auf 41 Tonnen belaufen.

Das Gesamtaufkommen an Altpapier⁽¹⁾, das im Übersetzungsdienst in Brüssel gesammelt wurde, belief sich 2011 auf 140 Tonnen, 2012 auf 133 Tonnen und bis Juni 2013 auf 64 Tonnen (und dürfte sich somit für das gesamte Jahr auf 128 Tonnen belaufen). Laut Bericht der technischen Dienste wird Altpapier in Brüssel durchschnittlich zu 95 % recycelt. Auf den Übersetzungsdienst entfallen dementsprechend für 2011, 2012 und 2013 (Trend) 133 Tonnen, 126 Tonnen bzw. 122 Tonnen. In Luxemburg wird das Altpapier vollständig recycelt.

⁽¹⁾ Einschließlich (jedoch nicht ausschließlich) Papier, Verpackungsmaterial, Zeitschriften und Rundschreiben aus internen und externen Quellen.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012092/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Amount of paper used by the Commission's translation service

The Commission maintains its own translation service.

1. How much paper was used for translated documents in 2011, 2012 and 2013?
2. How much paper was disposed of?
3. How much paper was sent for recycling?

Answer given by Mr Šefčovič on behalf of the Commission

(20 December 2013)

The European Commission monitors and reports on the environmental impact of its activities through its accredited impact Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS), which is expanding to cover more of its buildings in Brussels, Luxembourg and beyond. Resource use, including paper consumption (for general use and mostly for printing) is reported annually for the Commission sites in Brussels and Luxembourg. Paper consumption in DGT was 51 tonnes in 2011, 46 tonnes in 2012, and trending towards 41 tonnes in 2013.

The total of all waste paper products ⁽¹⁾ collected from DGT in Brussels was 140 tonnes in 2011, 133 tonnes in 2012 and 64 tonnes up to June 2013 (therefore trending towards 128 tonnes for the year.) Technical services report that recycling of waste paper products in Brussels averages 95%, which for DGT is equivalent to 133 tonnes, 126 tonnes and 122 tonnes for 2011, 2012 and 2013 (trend) respectively. In Luxembourg all waste paper products are recycled.

⁽¹⁾ Includes (but not exclusively) paper, packaging, journals/circulars from internal and external sources.

(Deutsche Fassung)

Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012093/13

an den Rat

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Übersetzergehälter beim Rat

Der Rat unterhält einen eigenen Übersetzungsdienst.

1. Wie hoch war im Jahr 2012 das niedrigste Gehalt für Übersetzer?
2. Wie hoch war im Jahr 2012 das höchste Gehalt für Übersetzer?
3. Wie gliederten sich die Übersetzer im Jahr 2012 auf der Gehaltsstufenskala des Rates?

Antwort

(23. Dezember 2013)

Im Jahr 2012 waren ungefähr 630 Übersetzer beim Rat beschäftigt: 590 Beamte und 40 Vertragsbedienstete.

Die Übersetzergehälter richten sich nach den Gehaltstabellen des Statuts der Beamten und der Beschäftigungsbedingungen für die sonstigen Bediensteten.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012093/13
to the Council**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Translator salaries in the Council

The Council maintains its own translation service.

1. What was the lowest salary for translators in 2012?
2. What was the highest salary for translators in 2012?
3. What was the breakdown of translators in 2012 in terms of the Council's salary scale?

Reply

(23 December 2013)

In 2012 the Council employed approximately 630 translators: 590 were statutory officials and 40 were contract agents.

Translators are paid in accordance with the salary scales of the Staff Regulations and of the Conditions of employment of other servants.

(Deutsche Fassung)

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012094/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Übersetzergehälter in der Kommission

Die Kommission beschäftigte im Jahr 2012 1 474 Übersetzer.

1. Wie hoch war im Jahr 2012 das niedrigste Gehalt für Übersetzer?
2. Wie hoch war im Jahr 2012 das höchste Gehalt für Übersetzer?
3. Wie gliederten sich die Übersetzer im Jahr 2012 auf der Gehaltsstufenskala der Kommission?

**Antwort von Herrn Šefčovič im Namen der Kommission
(6. Januar 2014)**

Am 1. Januar 2013 arbeiteten 1 474 Übersetzer in der Generaldirektion Übersetzung der Europäischen Kommission.

Die niedrigste Besoldungsgruppe war AD 5, die höchste AD 14.

Eine Aufschlüsselung der 1 474 Übersetzer nach Besoldungsgruppen findet sich in der Tabelle in Anhang 1.

Die Gehaltstabellen mit den monatlichen Grundgehältern der einzelnen Besoldungsgruppen können dem Statut der Beamten Titel V Kapitel 1 (Bezüge und Kostenerstattung) ⁽¹⁾ entnommen werden.

⁽¹⁾ http://eur-lex.europa.eu/Result.do?T1=V1&T2=1962&T3=31&RechType=RECH_consolidated&Submit=Search

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012094/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Translators' salaries in the Commission

The Commission employed 1474 translators in 2012.

1. What was the lowest salary for translators in 2012?
2. What was the highest salary for translators in 2012?
3. What was the breakdown of translators in 2012 in terms of the Commission's salary scale?

Answer given by Mr Šefčovič on behalf of the Commission

(6 January 2014)

On 1 January 2013, 1474 translators were working in DG Translation of the European Commission.

The lowest grade was AD 5, the highest grade AD 14.

The breakdown of all 1474 translators over the different grades is provided in the table in Annex 1.

The basic monthly salaries corresponding to the different grades are set out in Title V, Chapter 1 of the Staff Regulations (Remuneration and expenses) ⁽¹⁾

⁽¹⁾ http://eur-lex.europa.eu/Result.do?T1=V1&T2=1962&T3=31&RechType=RECH_consolidated&Submit=Search

(Deutsche Fassung)

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012095/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Kosten der Europäischen Beobachtungsstelle für Drogen und Drogensucht (EMCDDA) für das Informationsnetzwerk „Reitox“

Die Europäische Beobachtungsstelle für Drogen und Drogensucht (EMCDDA) plante für die Jahre 2011, 2012 und 2013 Kosten für das Informationsnetzwerk „Reitox“ von 2 606 569, 2 646 388 und 2 646 388 EUR ein.

Wie genau gliedern sich diese Kosten auf?

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012106/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Personal der Europäischen Beobachtungsstelle für Drogen und Drogensucht (EMCDDA)

Dem Haushaltsplan der Europäischen Beobachtungsstelle für Drogen und Drogensucht (EMCDDA) für das Jahr 2013 zufolge stiegen allein die Gehaltskosten der Agentur von 2011 bis 2013 um über eine Million Euro — von 5 853 220 EUR auf 6 952 278,76 EUR. Die Personalkosten insgesamt stiegen von 7 780 100 EUR im Jahr 2011 auf 9 280 878,76 EUR im Jahr 2013. Im selben Zeitraum stieg die Anzahl der Planstellen von 77 auf 84 und die Anzahl der Zeitbediensteten von 26 auf 28.

1. Wie genau erklärt EMCDDA diese Kostensteigerung?
2. Wofür wurde das zusätzliche Personal benötigt? Welche konkreten Aufgaben sind mit den neu geschaffenen Positionen verbunden?

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012108/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Restaurantkosten der Europäischen Beobachtungsstelle für Drogen und Drogensucht (EMCDDA)

Die Europäische Beobachtungsstelle für Drogen und Drogensucht (EMCDDA) plante für die Jahre 2011, 2012 und 2013 Kosten für „Restaurants und Kantinen“ von 20 000, 17 100 und 12 000 EUR ein.

1. Verfügt die EMCDDA über eine eigene Kantine?
2. Wie genau verteilen sich die Kosten in den genannten Jahren auf die Unterpunkte „Restaurants“ und „Kantinen“?
3. Wie viele Mahlzeiten finanzierte die EMCDDA für ihre Mitarbeiter außer Haus?
4. Warum finanzierte die EMCDDA Mahlzeiten für ihre Mitarbeiter?
5. Kamen alle oder nur bestimmte Mitarbeiter in den Genuss von finanzierten Mahlzeiten?
6. Wurden bei den Mahlzeiten auch alkoholische Getränke eingenommen?

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012111/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Trainingskosten der Europäischen Beobachtungsstelle für Drogen und Drogensucht (EMCDDA)

Die Europäische Beobachtungsstelle für Drogen und Drogensucht (EMCDDA) plante für die Jahre 2011, 2012 und 2013 Schulungskosten von respektive 95 000, 79 500 und 50 000 EUR ein.

1. Welche Schulungen organisierte oder finanzierte die EMCDDA in den Jahren 2011, 2012 und 2013 jeweils bzw. plant sie zu organisieren?
2. Wie hoch waren die Kosten für jede dieser Schulungen?
3. Wie viele Mitarbeiter kamen in den Genuss einer Schulung? Wie viele erhielten jeweils zwei, drei oder mehr Schulungen?

**Gemeinsame Antwort von Frau Reding im Namen der Kommission
(11. Dezember 2013)**

Die Kommission hat die Europäische Beobachtungsstelle für Drogen und Drogensucht (EMCDDA) um die Beantwortung der Frage des Herrn Abgeordneten gebeten. Die Antwort der Agentur wird dem Herrn Abgeordneten so bald wie möglich von der Kommission zugesandt.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012095/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Costs of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) for the Reitox information network

The planned costs of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) for the Reitox information network for 2011, 2012 and 2013 were EUR 2 606 569, EUR 2 646 388 and EUR 2 646 388, respectively.

What is the exact break down of these costs?

**Question for written answer E-012106/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Staff at the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction

According to the 2013 budget for the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), salary costs alone rose by a million euros between 2011 and 2013 from EUR 5 853 220 to EUR 6 952 278.76. Total staffing costs rose from EUR 7 780 100 in 2011 to EUR 9 280 878.76 in 2013. In the same period, the number of permanent posts rose from 77 to 84 and the number of temporary agents rose from 26 to 28.

1. How exactly does the EMCDDA explain this increase in costs?
2. For what purposes were the additional staff members required? What specific tasks are associated with the newly created posts?

**Question for written answer E-012108/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Restaurant costs of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)

The planned costs of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) for 'restaurants and canteens' for 2011, 2012 and 2013 were EUR 20 000, EUR 17 100 and EUR 12 000, respectively.

1. Does the EMCDDA have its own canteen?
2. How exactly were the costs in the years specified distributed between the sub-items 'restaurants' and 'canteens'?
3. How many meals does the EMCDDA subsidise for its staff away from home?
4. Why does the EMCDDA subsidise meals for its staff?
5. Did all members of staff enjoy subsidised meals, or only certain of them?
6. Were alcoholic beverages also consumed during these meals?

**Question for written answer E-012111/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Training costs of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)

The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) provided for training costs for 2011, 2012 and 2013 of EUR 95 000, EUR 79 500 and EUR 50 000, respectively.

1. What training did the EMCDDA organise or fund in 2011, 2012 and 2013, respectively, or is it planning to organise?
2. How much did each of these training courses cost?
3. How many members of staff benefited from a training course? How many of them attended two, three or more training courses, respectively?

Joint answer given by Mrs Reding on behalf of the Commission

(11 December 2013)

The Commission has asked the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) to provide a response to the questions raised by the Honourable Member. The Agency's reply will be sent by the Commission to the Honourable Member as soon as possible.

(Deutsche Fassung)

Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012096/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Personalkosten der Europäischen Agentur für Netz- und Informationssicherheit (ENISA)

Das Jahresbudget der Europäischen Agentur für Netz- und Informationssicherheit (ENISA) für das Haushaltsjahr 2013 ⁽¹⁾ sieht für 2013 Gehaltskosten von 3 065 000 EUR vor. Im Jahr 2012 waren es noch 2 798 112,39 EUR. Ebenfalls stiegen die Kosten für Familienzulagen, Auslandszulagen und nationale Experten, so dass die ENISA insgesamt für 2013 Personalausgaben von 5 453 541,70 EUR einplante. Die Kosten für 2013 lagen damit mehr als 200 000 EUR über dem Vorjahresbetrag, während die Mitarbeiterzahl konstant bei 47 Planstellen verblieb.

1. Wie erklärt die Agentur diese Steigerung?
2. Welche Maßnahmen unternimmt die Agentur, um zukünftige Steigerungen zu vermeiden?

Antwort von Frau Kroes im Namen der Kommission
(10. Dezember 2013)

Die Kommission hat die Europäische Agentur für Netz- und Informationssicherheit (ENISA) gebeten, die Fragen des Herrn Abgeordneten zu beantworten. Die Kommission wird die Antwort der Agentur so schnell wie möglich an den Herrn Abgeordneten weiterleiten.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.enisa.europa.eu/about-enisa/accounting-finance/files/enisa-2013-annual-budget>

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012096/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Staff costs of the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA)

The annual budget of the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA) for the financial year 2013 ⁽¹⁾ provides for salary costs for 2013 of EUR 3 065 000. In 2012, the amount was just EUR 2 798 112.39. The costs also increased for family allowances, expatriation and foreign-residence allowances, and national experts, with the result that ENISA allowed for total staff costs of EUR 5 453 541.70 for 2013. The costs for 2013 were therefore more than EUR 200 000 higher than the amount for the previous year, whereas the staff headcount remained the same at 47.

1. How does the Agency explain this increase?
2. What steps is the Agency taking to avoid future increases?

Answer given by Ms Kroes on behalf of the Commission

(10 December 2013)

The Commission has asked the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA) to provide a response to the question raised by the Honourable Member. The Agency's reply will be sent by the Commission to the Honourable Member as soon as possible.

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.enisa.europa.eu/about-enisa/accounting-finance/files/enisa-2013-annual-budget>

(Deutsche Fassung)

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012105/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Operative Ausgaben der Europäischen Eisenbahnagentur (ERA)

Dem Einnahmen- und Ausgabenplan der Europäischen Eisenbahnagentur (ERA) für das Haushaltsjahr 2013 zufolge plante die Agentur für das Jahr 2013 Mittel von 3 713 799 EUR für „Operative Ausgaben“ ein. Im Vorjahr waren noch 2 900 000 EUR vorgesehen, im Jahr 2011 wurden tatsächlich 1 757 581 EUR ausgegeben.

1. Welche konkreten Aktivitäten, Tätigkeiten und Funktionen umfasst die Agentur unter dem Begriff „Operative Ausgaben“?
2. Warum haben sich die „Operativen Ausgaben“ nach Einschätzung der Agentur von 2011 bis 2013 mehr als verdoppelt?
3. Welche Maßnahmen hat die Agentur unternommen, um diesen Kostensteigerungen entgegenzuwirken?

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012110/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Sitzungen und Nebenkosten der Europäischen Eisenbahnagentur (ERA)

Dem Einnahmen- und Ausgabenplan der Europäischen Eisenbahnagentur (ERA) für das Haushaltsjahr 2013 zufolge plante die Agentur für das Jahr 2013 Mittel von 235 000 EUR für „Sitzungen und Nebenkosten“ ein. Im Vorjahr waren noch 85 000 EUR vorgesehen, im Jahr 2011 wurden tatsächlich 66 978 EUR ausgegeben.

1. Warum erwartete die Agentur für 2013 eine Vervierfachung der noch 2011 für diesen Posten genutzten Mittel?
2. Wie viele Sitzungen organisierte die Agentur in den Jahren 2011, 2012 und 2013 beziehungsweise wie viele wird sie organisieren?
3. Wie hoch waren a) die Teilnehmerzahl und b) die Kosten für jede dieser Sitzungen?
4. Was umfasst die Agentur unter dem Begriff „Nebenkosten“ für Sitzungen?

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012116/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Bewegliche Sachen und Nebenkosten der Europäischen Eisenbahnagentur (ERA)

Dem Einnahmen- und Ausgabenplan der Europäischen Eisenbahnagentur (ERA) für das Haushaltsjahr 2013 zufolge plante die Agentur für das Jahr 2013 Mittel von 170 000 EUR für „Bewegliche Sachen und Nebenkosten“ ein. Im Vorjahr waren ebenfalls 170 000 EUR vorgesehen, im Jahr 2011 wurden tatsächlich 78 225 EUR ausgegeben.

1. Wie genau gliederten sich die geschätzten bzw. tatsächlichen Kosten der Jahre 2011, 2012 und 2013 jeweils?
2. Warum erwartet die Agentur für die Jahre 2012 und 2013 mehr als doppelt so hohe Kosten wie im Jahr 2011?
3. Über welche beweglichen Sachen verfügt die Agentur? Welcher Anteil davon ist geleast, und welcher befindet sich im Eigentum der Agentur?

Gemeinsame Antwort von Herrn Kallas im Namen der Kommission*(2. Dezember 2013)*

Die Kommission hat die Europäische Eisenbahnagentur (ERA) gebeten, die Antworten auf die Fragen des Herrn Abgeordneten zu liefern.

Diese Antworten wird die Kommission dem Herrn Abgeordneten weiterleiten.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012105/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Operational expenditures of the European Railway Agency (ERA)

In the statement of revenue and expenditure of the European Railway Agency (ERA) for the financial year 2013, the Agency provides for an appropriation for 2013 of EUR 3 713 799 for 'operational expenditures'. Last year there was an appropriation of EUR 2 900 000, and in 2011 the outturn was EUR 1 757 581.

1. What specific activities, tasks and functions does the Agency include under the term 'operational expenditures'?
2. Why have the 'operational expenditures' more than doubled from 2011 to 2013, according to the Agency's estimates?
3. What steps has the Agency taken to counter these cost increases?

**Question for written answer E-012110/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Meetings and associated costs of the European Railway Agency (ERA)

In the statement of revenue and expenditure of the European Railway Agency (ERA) for the financial year 2013, the Agency provided for an appropriation for 2013 of EUR 235 000 for 'meetings and associated costs'. The appropriation for last year was just EUR 85 000, and in 2011 the outturn was EUR 66 978.

1. Why does the Agency expect a fourfold increase in 2013 compared to the amount spent on this item in 2011?
2. How many meetings did the Agency organise in 2011, 2012 and 2013, or will it organise?
3. What were (a) the participant numbers and (b) the costs for each of these meetings?
4. What does the Agency include under the term 'associated costs' for meetings?

**Question for written answer E-012116/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Movable property and associated costs of the European Railway Agency (ERA)

In the statement of revenue and expenditure of the European Railway Agency (ERA) for the financial year 2013, the Agency provided for an appropriation for 2013 of EUR 170 000 for 'movable property and associated costs'. The appropriation for last year was also EUR 170 000, and in 2011 the outturn was EUR 78 225.

1. What is the exact breakdown of the estimated or actual costs for 2011, 2012 and 2013, respectively?
2. Why does the Agency expect the costs for 2012 and 2013 to be more than twice those for 2011?
3. What movable property does the Agency have at its disposal? What proportion of this is leased and what proportion is owned by the Agency?

(Version française)

Réponse commune donnée par M. Kallas au nom de la Commission

(2 décembre 2013)

La Commission a demandé à l'Agence Ferroviaire Européenne (AFE) de fournir les éléments de réponse aux questions posées par l'Honorable Parlementaire.

Ces éléments seront transmis par la Commission à l'Honorable Parlementaire.

(Deutsche Fassung)

Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012107/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Personalzusammensetzung des Übersetzungszentrums für die Einrichtungen der Europäischen Union (CdT)

Den statistischen Informationen zum Personal des Übersetzungszentrums für die Einrichtungen der Europäischen Union (CdT) für das Jahr 2010 ⁽¹⁾ zufolge stammten von 215 Mitarbeitern des Zentrums 48 aus Frankreich und 30 aus Belgien, dabei stammten von 86 Assistenten 70 entweder aus Frankreich oder aus Belgien.

1. Wie erklärt das Zentrum die ungewöhnlich hohe Anzahl von belgischen und französischen Staatsbürgern in ihrem Personal und insbesondere unter den Assistenten?
2. Wie setzt sich das Personal derzeit zusammen?

Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012109/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Sicherheits- und Überwachungskosten des Übersetzungszentrums für die Einrichtungen der Europäischen Union (CdT)

Dem Vorentwurf des Haushaltsplans 2014 des Übersetzungszentrums für die Einrichtungen der Europäischen Union (CdT) für das Jahr 2010 ⁽²⁾ zufolge plant das Zentrum für 2014 Kosten für „Sicherheit und Überwachung der Dienstgebäude“ von 194 700 EUR ein. Im Jahr 2013 waren 382 400 EUR eingeplant, im Jahr 2012 wurden 91 836 EUR ausgegeben.

1. Wie genau gliederten sich die Kosten in den Jahren 2011 und 2012 auf? Wie schätzt das Zentrum die Kostengliederung für die Jahre 2013 und 2014?
2. Wie erklärt das Zentrum die hohe Fluktuation der Kostenhöhe in den letzten Jahren?

Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012119/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Dienstreisen des Übersetzungszentrums für die Einrichtungen der Europäischen Union (CdT)

Dem geänderten Arbeitsprogramm des Übersetzungszentrums für die Einrichtungen der Europäischen Union (CdT) für das Jahr 2013 ⁽³⁾ zufolge führte das Zentrum ein Ausschreibungsverfahren für eine Reiseagentur im Schätzwert von 260 000 EUR durch.

1. Wie viele Dienstreisen finanzierte das CDT für a) die eigenen Mitarbeiter und b) fremdes Personal, Bewerber und Experten in den Jahren 2011, 2012 und 2013?
2. Was waren die Zwecke dieser Dienstreisen?
3. Gibt es bereits ein Ergebnis des Auswahlverfahrens? Welches Unternehmen gewann mit welchem Preis?

⁽¹⁾ <http://cdt.europa.eu/CDT%20Documents/Statistical%20information%20on%20staff%202010/Stat%20personnel%202010%20EN.pdf>

⁽²⁾ <http://cdt.europa.eu/CDT%20Documents/Preliminary%20draft%20Budget%202014/APB%202014%20adopt%20C3%20A9%20DE.pdf>

⁽³⁾ http://cdt.europa.eu/CDT%20Documents/AMENDEDE%20WORK%20PROGRAMME%202013/039%202013%2003_CT-CA_2013_AWP_DE.pdf

**Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012146/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)**

Betrifft: Immobilien des Übersetzungszentrums für die Einrichtungen der Europäischen Union (CDT)

Dem Einnahmen- und Ausgabenplan des Übersetzungszentrums für die Einrichtungen der Europäischen Union für das Haushaltsjahr 2013 zufolge plante das Zentrum für das Jahr 2013 Kosten für „Grundstücksinvestitionen, Miete von Gebäuden und Nebenkosten“ in Höhe von 1 764 200 EUR ein. Im Vorjahr waren 2 049 300 EUR eingeplant, im Jahr 2011 wurden 1 519 786 EUR tatsächlich genutzt. Für das Jahr 2014 rechnet das Zentrum mit Kosten von 1 482 829 EUR für „Gebäude, Material und verschiedene Sachausgaben.“

1. Wie erklärt das Zentrum die starken Schwankungen bei den Kosten für Gebäude?
2. Welche Gebäude befinden sich im Besitz des Zentrums? Wie groß ist die nutzbare Quadratmeterfläche und wie hoch waren die Anschaffungskosten?
3. Welche Gebäude mietet das Zentrum? Wie groß ist die nutzbare Quadratmeterfläche, wie hoch sind die Mietkosten und wie hoch ist der Mietpreis pro Quadratmeter?
4. Wie hoch sind die Nebenkosten für jedes dieser Gebäude?
5. Welche Grundstücksinvestitionen tätigte das Zentrum in den Jahren 2011, 2012 und 2013 beziehungsweise wird das Zentrum in den Jahren 2013 und 2014 noch tätigen?

**Gemeinsame Antwort von Frau Vassiliou im Namen der Kommission
(26. November 2013)**

Die Kommission hat das Übersetzungszentrum für die Einrichtungen der Europäischen Union gebeten, die Fragen des Herrn Abgeordneten zu beantworten. Die Kommission wird dem Herrn Abgeordneten die Antwort der Agentur so bald wie möglich übermitteln.

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-012107/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Composition of the staff of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT)

According to the statistical information on the staff of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT) for 2010 ⁽¹⁾, out of 215 Centre staff, 48 were from France and 30 from Belgium, with 70 out of 86 assistants coming from either France or Belgium.

1. How does the Centre explain the unusually high number of Belgian and French citizens among its staff, and in particular among the assistants?
2. What is the current composition of its staff?

**Question for written answer E-012109/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Security and surveillance costs of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT)

According to the Preliminary Draft Budget 2014 of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT) for 2010 [*sic*] ⁽²⁾, the Centre provided for costs of EUR 194 700 for 'security and surveillance of buildings' for 2014. The appropriation for 2013 was EUR 382 400, and in 2012 the outturn was EUR 91 836.

1. What is the exact breakdown of the costs for 2011 and 2012? What is the Centre's estimate of the breakdown of costs for 2013 and 2014?
2. How does the Centre explain the large fluctuation in costs over the last few years?

**Question for written answer E-012119/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Missions of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT)

According to the Amended Work Programme 2013 of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT) ⁽³⁾, the Centre carried out a tender procedure for a travel agency with an estimated value of EUR 260 000.

1. How many missions did the CdT fund for a) its own staff, and b) external staff, applicants and experts in 2011, 2012 and 2013?
2. What were the purposes of these missions?
3. Has this competition already produced a result? Which company won, and with what price?

⁽¹⁾ <http://cdt.europa.eu/CDT%20Documents/Statistical%20information%20on%20staff%202010/Stat%20personnel%202010%20EN.pdf>

⁽²⁾ <http://cdt.europa.eu/CDT%20Documents/Preliminary%20draft%20Budget%202014/APB%202014%20adopt%20C3%A9%20EN.pdf>

⁽³⁾ http://cdt.europa.eu/CDT%20Documents/AMENDED%20WORK%20PROGRAMME%202013/039%202013%2003_CT-CA_2013_AWP_DE.pdf

**Question for written answer E-012146/13
to the Commission**

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23 October 2013)

Subject: Properties of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union (CdT)

According to the statement of revenue and expenditure of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union for the financial year 2013, the Centre has provided for costs of EUR 1 764 200 for 'investment in immovable property, rental of buildings and associated costs' for 2013. Last year, an appropriation of EUR 2 049 300 was provided for, and in 2011 the outturn was EUR 1 519 786. For 2014, the Centre expects costs of EUR 1 482 829 for 'buildings, equipment and miscellaneous operating expenditure'.

1. How does the Centre explain the considerable fluctuations in the costs for buildings?
2. What buildings does the Centre own? What is the useful area in square metres, and how much did the buildings cost to purchase?
3. What buildings does the Centre rent? What is the useful area in square metres, what are the rental costs, and how much is the rent per square metre?
4. How high are the associated costs for each of these buildings?
5. What investments in immovable property did the Centre make in 2011, 2012 and 2013 or will the Centre make in 2013 and 2014?

Joint answer given by Ms Vassiliou on behalf of the Commission

(26 November 2013)

The Commission has asked the Translation Center for the Bodies of the European Union (TC) to provide a response to the questions raised by the Honourable Member. The Agency's reply will be sent by the Commission to the Honourable Member as soon as possible.

(Deutsche Fassung)

Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012112/13

an die Kommission

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Veröffentlichungskosten der Europäischen Stiftung zur Verbesserung der Lebens- und Arbeitsbedingungen (Eurofound)

Dem Arbeitsprogramm ⁽¹⁾ der Europäischen Stiftung zur Verbesserung der Lebens- und Arbeitsbedingungen (Eurofound) zufolge sah die Stiftung für das Jahr 2013 Veröffentlichungskosten von 968 000 EUR vor. Diese Kosten unterteilen sich laut dem Arbeitsprogramm in die Unterpunkte „editing“, „typesetting & printing“, „design“ und „translation“.

1. Wie genau gliederten sich die Kosten in den Jahren 2011 und 2012 jeweils auf diese Unterpunkte auf?
2. Wie schätzt die Stiftung die Aufgliederung der Kosten für das Jahr 2013?
3. Welche Veröffentlichungen produzierte die Stiftung in den Jahren 2011, 2012 und 2013 jeweils? Wie hoch war die gedruckte Auflage jeder dieser Veröffentlichungen?

Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012113/13

an die Kommission

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Webveröffentlichungskosten der Europäischen Stiftung zur Verbesserung der Lebens- und Arbeitsbedingungen (Eurofound)

Dem Arbeitsprogramm ⁽¹⁾ der Europäischen Stiftung zur Verbesserung der Lebens- und Arbeitsbedingungen (Eurofound) zufolge sah die Stiftung für das Jahr 2013 Kosten von 968 000 EUR für „Web-based publishing and distribution, including web development“ vor. Diese Kosten unterteilen sich laut dem Arbeitsprogramm in die Unterpunkte „web content development“, „web hosting“, „web application development (incl. project 38)“ und „web publishing“.

1. Wie gliederten sich die Kosten in den Jahren 2011 und 2012 im Einzelnen jeweils auf diese Unterpunkte auf?
2. Wie schätzt die Stiftung die Aufgliederung der Kosten für das Jahr 2013?
3. Welche Websites betreibt die Stiftung, und wie hoch waren die Kosten pro Website in den Jahren 2011, 2012 und 2013 beziehungsweise wie hoch werden sie sein?

Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012115/13

an die Kommission

Hans-Peter Martin (NI)

(23. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Ausstellungs- und Eventkosten der Europäischen Stiftung zur Verbesserung der Lebens- und Arbeitsbedingungen (Eurofound)

Dem Arbeitsprogramm ⁽¹⁾ der Europäischen Stiftung zur Verbesserung der Lebens- und Arbeitsbedingungen (Eurofound) zufolge sah die Stiftung für das Jahr 2013 Kosten von 968 000 EUR für Events und Ausstellungen vor. Diese Kosten unterteilen sich laut dem Arbeitsprogramm in die Unterpunkte „Ausstellungen“ und „Events“, wobei 200 000 EUR auf den Event-Unterpunkt „Foundation Forum 2013“ entfielen.

1. Wie genau gliederten sich die Kosten in den Jahren 2011 und 2012 jeweils auf diese Unterpunkte auf?
2. Wie schätzt die Stiftung die Aufgliederung der Kosten für das Jahr 2013?

⁽¹⁾ <http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/pubdocs/2012/79/en/2/EF1279EN.pdf>

3. Wie viele Ausstellungen und Events organisierte die Stiftung in den Jahren 2011, 2012 und 2013, und wie hoch waren jeweils die Kosten?
4. Wie viele Teilnehmer nahmen an den einzelnen Events teil bzw. besuchten die einzelnen Ausstellungen?
5. Wie genau gliedern sich die Kosten für das „Foundation Forum 2013“ auf?

Anfrage zur schriftlichen Beantwortung E-012149/13
an die Kommission
Hans-Peter Martin (NI)
(23. Oktober 2013)

Betrifft: Kosten für Gebäude der Europäischen Stiftung zur Verbesserung der Lebens- und Arbeitsbedingungen (Eurofound)

Der Einnahmen- und Ausgabenplan für die Europäische Stiftung zur Verbesserung der Lebens- und Arbeitsbedingungen (Eurofound) für das Haushaltsjahr 2013 enthält Kosten von 708 000 EUR für „Instandhaltung der Gebäude und zugehörige Kosten“. Für das Jahr 2012 waren 923 583 EUR vorgesehen, im Jahr 2011 wurden 585 731 EUR ausgegeben.

1. Über wie viele Gebäude mit welcher nutzbaren Quadratmeterfläche verfügt die Stiftung?
2. Welche dieser Gebäude sind gemietet, und wie hoch sind die monatlichen Mietkosten sowie der Mietpreis pro Quadratmeter?
3. Welche dieser Gebäude befinden sich ganz oder teilweise im Eigentum der Stiftung? Wie groß ist die nutzbare Quadratmeterfläche jeder dieser Immobilien, und wann wurden die Gebäude zu welchem Preis erworben?
4. Wie viele Mitarbeiter sind den einzelnen Gebäuden jeweils zugeordnet?
5. Welche Instandhaltungskosten traten für jedes dieser Gebäude in den Jahren 2011, 2012 und 2013 auf?
6. Welche „zugehörigen Kosten“ gibt es, und wie hoch waren diese in den Jahren 2011, 2012 und 2013?
7. Wie erklärt die Stiftung die hohe Fluktuation der Kosten — nahezu eine Verdoppelung der Kosten von 2011 auf 2012 und eine Reduktion um 200 000 EUR von 2012 auf 2013?
8. Welche Kosten erwartet die Stiftung für die Jahre 2014 und 2015?
9. Welche Maßnahmen unternimmt die Stiftung, um Kosten für ihre Immobilien gering zu halten bzw. zu reduzieren?

Gemeinsame Antwort von Herrn Andor im Namen der Kommission
(9. Dezember 2013)

„Die Kommission hat die Europäische Stiftung zur Verbesserung der Lebens- und Arbeitsbedingungen (Eurofound) gebeten, auf die von dem Herrn Abgeordneten gestellten Fragen (12112, 12113, 12115, 12149) zu antworten. Die Kommission wird dem Herrn Abgeordneten die Antwort der Stiftung so rasch wie möglich zukommen lassen.“
