

**Question for written answer E-015277/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Transparency in the EU institutions

Transparency International, an organisation which campaigns against corruption, has assessed levels of transparency in 19 EU Member States and three EU institutions in the light of the international standards governing lobby groups. The Member States and institutions concerned obtained an average score of 31/100. Two scored more than 50: the Commission and Slovenia. Parliament scored only 37/100, and the Council only 19/100.

Nevertheless, the organisation points out that 'gaps in regulatory coverage, loopholes and poor implementation of rules' remain commonplace, even within the Commission: many lobby groups (e.g. the tobacco, drinks, energy, finance and pharmaceuticals lobbies) exert too great an influence on EU decision-making, giving rise to fears of abuses.

The Commission has pledged to introduce a mandatory register of lobbyists who target the EU institutions.

1. What stage has been reached in the process of setting up a lobbyists' register?
2. What specific measures does the Commission plan to take to rule out conflicts of interest and ward off the influence of lobby groups which target the EU institutions?