

**Question for written answer E-014393/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Kostas Chrysogonos (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Lack of transparency in the Commission's meetings with representatives of tobacco companies

According to a report drawn up by the European Ombudsman Emily O'Reilly and published on 01.10.2015, the Commission is failing to honour its commitments to transparency in its meetings with representatives of tobacco companies. More specifically, the report points to a violation of Article 5 (3) of the Framework Convention of the World Health Organization on Tobacco Control which provides that *'in setting and implementing their public health policies with respect to tobacco control, Parties shall act to protect these policies from commercial and other vested interests...'* and Principle 2 of the Guidelines which provides that *'Parties, when dealing with the tobacco industry or those working to further its interests, should be accountable and transparent.'*¹

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

1. What is the reason for the shortcomings identified in the Ombudsman's report?
2. Why was it decided to restrict the scope of the two decisions that entered into force on 25.11.2014 on transparency in meetings with representatives of tobacco companies to Commissioners, members of their offices and directors-general?
3. What will it do to act on the Ombudsman's recommendations?

¹ <http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/cases/draftrecommendation.faces/en/61021/html.bookmark>