



Plenary sitting

9.9.2015

B8-0915/2015

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure

on EU spending on communication and the funding of think tanks

Sophie Montel, Dominique Bilde, Florian Philippot

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on EU spending on communication and the funding of think tanks

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the EU's communication and promotion spending rose to EUR 664 million in 2014, and whereas, furthermore, this figure does not include all the EU's promotional activities;
- B. whereas this spending covers far more than simply informing the public;
- C. whereas, according to the *Telegraph* newspaper, the European Commission is funding think tanks and trade unions to hold high-level seminars, publish reports and place opinion pieces in newspapers in order to promote a greater affinity for the European Union and influence the general public;
- D. whereas the aim of such infiltration, which smacks of corruption, is to put pressure on UK and US policymakers;
- E. whereas such funding undermines the credibility of the think tanks in question;
- 1. Calls on the Commission to drastically cut its lavish communication spending and to stop funding for propaganda purposes aimed at policymakers in countries inside and outside the EU.