### **European Parliament**

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## **MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure
on the disproportionate rise in mergers and acquisitions in 2015

**Sophie Montel, Florian Philippot** 

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#### B8-0124/2016

# Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the disproportionate rise in mergers and acquisitions in 2015

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas in 2015 there were 4 590 mergers and acquisitions, a rise of 90% over the figure for 2013;
- B. whereas this frenetic activity is first and foremost linked to the imbalance between companies' record high profits and low investment needs (mergers and acquisitions are considered to be a way of correcting excess capacity caused by the global economic slowdown);
- C. whereas this excessive number of mergers and acquisitions is also a result of the glut of liquidity caused by low interest rates;
- D. whereas this situation both causes investment funds to hunt for high returns (and thus become less 'selective' in choosing companies in which to invest and favour those displaying tax-related or fiscal opportunism), and leads to market consolidation in favour of the market leader (by absorbing its competitors);
- 1. Calls on the Commission and Member States to take all necessary measures to curb this phenomenon (such as by banning buyouts, providing investment incentives and practising fiscal protectionism);
- 2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the Member States.

