

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3779/05

by Lasse Lehtinen (PSE) and Ole Christensen (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Football clubs used for money laundering

During the past few months, several newspaper articles have alleged that football clubs in EU Member States have been involved in dubious financial transactions. According to these articles, professional football clubs in England, Portugal and the Netherlands have been involved in player transactions which have even raised suspicions of money laundering and club cartels. Apparently, criminals are using football clubs as a vehicle for money laundering, pouring hundreds of millions of euros into the clubs.

UEFA is concerned about the current situation and wants the matter to be investigated more fully.

Has the Commission considered the allegations referred to above, and does it monitor these transactions?

How does the Commission cooperate with UEFA and FIFA in these matters?