

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3102/10
by Nessa Childers (S&D)
to the Commission

Subject: Lobbying register

Following a recent report by Friends of the Earth on the EU's register for lobbyists who work in Brussels, I was disappointed to discover that it is not compulsory for lobbyists to join the register if they are engaged in any form of lobbying.

Judging by the amount of money spent and the considerable success in their attempts to influence legislation, does the Commission have any plans to make it mandatory to join the register of lobbyists?

Does the Commission agree that, with the current statistics showing that there are at least 5000 lobbyists for just 736 MEPs, and that 20 of the top 50 companies in Europe are not registered at all, a major overhaul of the system by which lobbyists operate is necessary?