

**Question for written answer E-007475/2013  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

**Ingeborg Gräßle (PPE) and Monica Luisa Macovei (PPE)**

Subject: Conflict of interest - Danish Institute of Human Rights

1. The Danish Institute of Human Rights (DIHR) saw its funding cut by the Danish authorities after 'irregularities' had been found. The director in charge at the time the irregularities occurred is now working for an EU agency. The Danish authorities cancelled their support to the DIHR; the EU agency is still funding it.
  - (a) Has the Commission evaluated the financial transactions from this agency to the DIHR?
  - (b) Have irregularities been found?
  - (c) What action has been taken?
  - (d) Have funds been recovered? If so, what amount?
2. Management board members are leading staff of organisations that receive(d) grants or other financial support from the agency in question.
  - (a) How are these conflicts of interest managed?
  - (b) Have those members been involved in the process of granting funding to their organisations?
3. In the past there have been European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) cases involving agency staff in response to allegations that documents had been backdated, that staff had been mobbed and that the agency had not complied with existing rules on recruitment procedures.
  - (a) What was the result of these investigations?
  - (b) Could the Commission provide Parliament with the recommendations that OLAF issued?
  - (c) If there were no recommendations, could the Commission provide Parliament with a justification?
  - (d) What measures have been taken by the agency to prevent harassment, mobbing, etc.?
  - (e) Has any action been taken in response to incidents of harassment of staff members by other employees?
4. Are there any court cases pending against this agency? How many? What is the substance of these cases?
5. Who is bearing the costs of legal representation for staff of the agency before the courts? In which cases?
6. Could the Commission or the agency give details on the poem competition in 2010? How many people participated? How much money was spent?