

**Question for written answer E-008613/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Beatrix von Storch (ECR)**

Subject: Budgetary discharge of the Council by the Parliament

Article 319 TEU makes the following provision: 'The European Parliament, acting on a recommendation from the Council, shall give a discharge to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the budget.' The recipient of the budgetary discharge in the scope of the budgetary procedure is therefore the Commission. Pursuant to Article 319(2) TFEU, the European Parliament may request any necessary information in connection with the exercise of its powers over the implementation of the budget ('the Parliament's right to information').

1. Can the right to give a discharge to the Council/European Council be derived from Article 319 TEU?
2. On what legal basis in Community law can a 'right of Parliament to discharge the Council's budget' be derived from the 'right to information' pursuant to Article 319(2)?
3. Since 2009, the European Parliament has denied the Council/European Council budgetary discharge, presumably due to a lack of formal legal basis. What are the practical and legal consequences in the light of EU law?