

**Question for written answer E-008614/2014
to the Council**
Rule 130
Beatrix von Storch (ECR)

Subject: Sanctions law

In a series of cases, the EU Court of First Instance and/or the ECJ have lifted the restrictive measures (e.g. the freezing of cash and economic resources) imposed on individuals or companies by the EU. The EU Courts have upheld the actions for a declaration of nullity brought by the affected parties, lifted the sanctions and ordered the Council to bear the costs. In many cases, the grounds given have been as follows:

- total lack of evidence against the individuals or companies affected;
- failure to observe due process with regard to the affected parties.

The public has not been adequately informed about the rulings issued against the Council and the lifting of sanctions by the EU Courts.

1. In which cases have sanctions ordered by the Council been lifted by the EU Courts (case, file reference, date)?
2. What, according to the Council, is the total amount (in euro) of the direct and indirect costs of these proceedings, inclusive of any subsequent claims of damages?
3. How does the Council view the fact that the legal justifications for its politically motivated sanction measures are repeatedly rejected by the ECJ?