

**Question for written answer E-008815/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

José Blanco López (S&D)

Subject: VAT collection

According to a report published by the Commission a few days ago, in 2012 Spain lost more than EUR 12 400 million in VAT revenue, i.e. 18% of the amount it theoretically should have collected. Over the past two years, Spain has lost more than EUR 25 000 million (EUR 12 904 million in 2011 and EUR 12 412 million in 2012).

In Spain there is more than three times more fraud than in countries whose citizens are more responsible in terms of paying their taxes. The sum total of fraud in Spain over the past six years amounts to more than half of the general budgets of all of Spain's public authorities. This is an inexcusable figure.

In 2012, the EU as a whole lost around EUR 177 000 million as a result of uncollected VAT or VAT fraud. This amounts to 16% of expected VAT revenue.

What steps is the Commission intending to take to reform VAT with a view to making it more sound and effective and reducing its susceptibility to fraud? What major failings have been identified in Spain?