

**Question for written answer E-009445/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Transparency of lobbyists' activities in EU institutions

Lobbyists are an important source of information for MEPs to be able to carry out their work, but their activities need to be transparent and regulated.

In 2011 a voluntary Transparency Register for interest groups (lobbyists) was approved, which has had notable success: in two years over 6 000 organisations have registered. However, as the Member of the European Parliament Richard Corbett predicted, 'the people we want to see registered will be those that don't'. As various MEPs and NGOs have denounced, many organisations with particular importance due to their influence on decision-making in the EU are not registered. In 2008 the European Parliament indicated the need for a mandatory register in the future (2007/2115(INI)).

Bearing in mind President Juncker's commitment to greater transparency on this issue, I should like to ask the Commission:

1. When is it envisaged that a mandatory register for lobbyists will be approved that is valid for the Parliament, the Commission and the Council?
2. Does the Commission intend, with a view to fostering greater transparency, to propose the application of a 'legislative footprint' throughout the EU institutions, as was proposed in the report on the development of the framework for the activities of interest representatives (lobbyists) in the European institutions (2007/2115(INI))?