

**Question for written answer E-009449/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Beatrix von Storch (ECR)

Subject: ESA: Recognition of prostitution for value added in national accounts

The European System of National and Regional Accounts (ESA 2010) is an important instrument for analysing the economic strength of a country or region within the economic and monetary union.

Since 1 September 2014 the ESA 2010 has included prostitution and arms dealing along with the illegal buying, selling and exchange of drugs and stolen goods in the national accounts of the Member States.

The national accounts are an important indicator of the affluence of society.

1. If transactions that are clearly damaging to society are included in the objective value of the accounts, does this not distort the picture?
2. Have these transactions been included in an attempt to manipulate the reference value for the maximum permissible level of debt?