

**Question for written answer E-009842/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Louis Aliot (NI)

Subject: Tobacco agreements

In 2004, an agreement was concluded in the wake of a court case brought by the Commission and 10 Member States against Philip Morris for the organisation of smuggling, money laundering and the financing of networks involved in terrorist activities.

This initial agreement apparently contained secret clauses of which MEPs were unaware.

Such an agreement constitutes a breach of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, which has been ratified by the Commission and all the Member States.

It also contravenes the provisions of the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products, currently in the process of being ratified.

Given that this agreement was due to be reviewed in July 2014, it is vital that answers be provided to the following questions:

1. Is the agreement with the tobacco companies indeed the subject of talks?
2. What information is to be provided for MEPs?
3. Are there clauses that provide for the use of a specific traceability system for tobacco products in EU Member States in accordance with the 2014 European Directive on Tobacco Products?