Question for written answer E-010413/2014 to the Commission Rule 130 Ramón Jáuregui Atondo (S&D) and Jonás Fernández (S&D)

Subject: Independent fiscal institution in Spain

Under section VI, paragraph 30, of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) it signed with the Commission, the ECB, the IMF and the EFSF, the Spanish Government undertakes to set up an independent fiscal institution responsible for providing analysis and advice and monitoring fiscal policy. On 15 November 2013 the Organic Law on the Creation of an Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) came into effect in Spain. Article 24(2) provides for the appointment of the chair of the IFI by the Council of Ministers, on a proposal from the Ministry of the Treasury and Public Administration; the chair is to be attached to that ministry (Article 7(2)).

In the light of the legislation cited, and of the provisions of the MOU, does the Commission consider that the IFI will have the degree of independence it needs to carry out its remit of ensuring that the objectives of stabilising the budget and public debt and controlling expenditure are met?

Also, does it consider that the way the IFI has been set up reflects the fact that it will be required to liaise effectively with the Spanish Government and the relevant EU institutions?

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