

**Question for written answer E-011114/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Commission interference in Greek affairs

In a sovereign decision, the Prime Minister of Greece decided to bring forward the election by Parliament of its President of the Republic, thereby bringing about, given the current balance of power in the Parliament, the fall of the government and the calling of legislative elections.

Over the last few years, Greece has been a country particularly hard-hit by the austerity policies imposed by the Troika. At present, the unemployment rate is around 25.7%, with the rate for young people being as high as 49.8%. The rate of poverty has reached record levels (23.1%), a fact we must attribute to the destruction of the social state.

The Commission has commented at various times about these elections. The president of the Commission has already publicly announced that he prefers 'familiar faces' in the Greek government, to the detriment of 'extremist forces'. Commissioner Pierre Moscovici has been in Greece, where he had no compunction in praising the current leader, in a clear move to provide electoral support to the governing party.

I ask the Commission: how does it assess this clear interference in Greek domestic affairs and is it not prepared to maintain a neutral, equidistant stance, thereby respecting the will and decision-making power of the Greek people?