

Question for written answer E-000503/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Louis Aliot (NI)

Subject: Calculating deficits and public expenditure - Military expenditure of Community interest

To encourage Member States whose public finances are hard pressed, the European executive has confirmed, via its Vice-President Jyrki Katainen, that: 'If States decide to contribute to the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) or investment platforms alongside the EFSI, the Commission will take a favourable position towards these contributions in reviewing their public finances'.

In other words, States can make up for their financial contributions to the investment plan by enjoying greater flexibility in calculating their debts and deficits.

An incentive measure proving that it is possible to derogate from our treaties when this is in the interest of the institutions of the European Union.

Such a mechanism could be put in place in connection with external French military operations, particularly those fighting terrorism, which are of benefit to all EU Member States and the exorbitant costs of which are borne by France alone and weigh heavily on its deficits.

Could the Commission envisage such a prospect?