

**Question for written answer E-004105/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: OLAF and the fight against smuggling in Gibraltar

On 20 and 21 March 2014, two inspectors from the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) visited Gibraltar and the Campo de Gibraltar to investigate problems caused by tobacco smuggling in the area, together with the damage this is doing from an economic and social point of view and the resulting loss of revenue for both Spain and the Community.

Following this visit, OLAF published a report in July 2014 highlighting that it had reason to believe crimes of tobacco smuggling and money laundering had been committed, affecting the financial and other interests of the European Union. The report was sent to the Public Prosecution Service of Spain's High Court, which launched an investigation.

The duty imposed on imported tobacco, which is subsequently smuggled out again, generates a very high income for Gibraltar, representing approximately 30 % of its budget. This accounts for the fact that the local authorities show little concern in genuinely tackling tobacco smuggling.

What are the Commission's plans for combating the illegal trafficking and money laundering in Gibraltar referred to in the above OLAF report from July 2014?