

**Question for written answer E-007778/2015
to the Council**
Rule 130
Jozo Radoš (ALDE)

Subject: More judges for the Court of Justice: impact assessment

The call by the Court of Justice for an additional 12 judges to be appointed to the General Court has remained an unresolved issue for more than four years. The Council has recently put forward a proposal to appoint 28 more judges in three stages up to 2019. This increase will entail a steep rise in expenditure, since a single judge is estimated to cost roughly EUR 1 million a year.

The efficiency of the courts' work is a more important consideration than cost, given that inefficient courts can cause damage many times greater than the money spent to pay for them. The fact of having more judges, however, does not necessarily mean that courts operate more effectively. In order to give a final verdict on the Council's proposal to increase the number of judges, its impact needs to be assessed.

Does the Council have any impact assessment concerning the proposal to appoint an additional 28 judges to the Court of Justice? In other words, is the procedure already under way or will such an assessment be made in the future?