

**Question for written answer E-009215/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Tax rulings and recuperated tax

As a result of so-called 'tax rulings', citizens in several Member States have been deprived of considerable public revenue. If, as seems likely, these rulings are judged illegal, the tax avoided should be recuperated.

However, it is our understanding that the tax recuperated will go back to the Member State responsible for arranging the tax ruling. It seems perverse that countries that have attracted corporations purely as a result of their low tax rates should benefit financially. With regard to such cases of negative decision with recovery, the Commission is asked to answer the following:

1. Does it agree that citizens will find it hard to understand how a country that has deprived other countries of tax income will benefit from such income?
2. Is it considering changing the rules governing the recovery of unpaid taxes, so that tax paid to a Member State as a result of an illegal tax ruling should be matched by a Commission fine on the Member State which has benefited from the recovered tax?
3. Could it open a debate on how the proceeds of such fines may be spent, for example on the EU's own budget, on climate initiatives and on the overseas aid budget?