

**Question for written answer E-012824/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Steeve Briois (ENF) and Louis Aliot (ENF)

Subject: Commission position on Catalan independence

On 27 September 2015, regional elections in Catalonia are set to be seen as a referendum on Catalan independence. If the regionalists win, there is a real risk that they will declare Catalonia's independence from Spain. Although the Spanish Government has already stated that it would not recognise the creation of a new state, the Commission has preferred to remain silent on the matter. This seems to be a much thornier issue than the referendum on independence for Scotland.

A Catalan vote in favour of independence will trigger a vicious circle of regionalist claims, and the result will be weaker nation-states.

1. Could the Commission clarify its position on the development of regionalist movements in Europe?
2. Will the Commission recognise Catalan independence?