Question for written answer E-013055/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Ernest Maragall (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Follow-up question to E-007903/15

In your answer E-007903/15, which I fully support, it is suggested that the recommendation to reduce imbalance is proving entirely unsuccessful in the case of Germany, which can be of no surprise given that exceeding a deficit is penalised whereas exceeding a surplus results merely in a warning. In this way, the efforts of some countries are not being duly matched by the rest, and the consequence of all of this is that the savings glut has become a global problem for Europe and this has damaged growth and employment.

Is there not a need to increase pressure on imbalances caused by surpluses?

Should that pressure not be increased by giving out penalties in line with those imposed for deficits, and by issuing warnings that are aligned in the same way (i.e. with the same warning threshold for a surplus as for a deficit)?