

**Question for written answer E-015244/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Jonathan Arnott (EFDD)

Subject: Potential conflicts of interest in the UK EU referendum campaign

Various non-governmental organisations within the United Kingdom are in receipt of European Union funding. As the UK is a net contributor to EU funds, the cost of this is more than met by the UK taxpayer. Nevertheless, some of those organisations might find that their independence during the referendum campaign is compromised by the fact that they are in receipt of EU funds.

What steps will the Commission take to ensure that EU funds are neither used, nor appear to be used, for campaigning in the UK referendum on independence from the European Union?

Can the Commission provide assurances that no money from the European Union budget will be used for campaigning in the UK referendum?

Can the Commission provide assurances that EU funding – including ‘information’ budgets – will not be used to push a pro-EU case and will be for information only?