

**Question for written answer E-000306/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Jozo Radoš (ALDE)**

Subject: Level of development of ombudsman institutions

Ombudsmanry is important for protecting citizens' rights and for an understanding of democratic institutions. This is a relatively new institution both for EU Member States and for the countries moving towards membership.

1. How well developed are the ombudsman institutions in the six Western Balkan countries (Albania, Montenegro, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, and Macedonia) and Turkey?
2. What is the Commission doing to bolster the activities of ombudsmen in those countries?