

**Question for written answer E-001600/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ramón Jáuregui Atondo (S&D)

Subject: Investigation into the tax rules applicable in the jurisdiction of Gibraltar

The Spanish press reported yesterday, 24 February 2016, that according to the Spanish Public Prosecutor's Office, almost all of Rodrigo Rato's assets were held in Gibraltar. The Spanish Tax Agency is said to have put a figure of EUR 27 million on the assets held by the former Deputy Prime Minister of the Spanish Government, who was also a former Director of the IMF before resigning.

According to the Public Prosecutor's Office for the Province of Madrid, almost all of Rodrigo Rato's known assets are currently being held by the Gibraltar-based company Vivaway Limited and hence, in the final analysis, outside Spanish territory, meaning that they lie outside its jurisdiction.

On 4 May 2015 I asked the Commission for information on the 165 individual cases being investigated as State aid and breaches of competition.

In view of these circumstances, does the Commission not feel that there are more than alarming grounds to believe that Gibraltar is helping many Spanish citizens avoid paying tax?

Does it not view the tax rules applicable in the jurisdiction of Gibraltar as being designed to foster opacity and encourage Spanish taxpayers and European taxpayers in general to conceal their assets?

When will these matters be investigated?