

**Question for written answer E-002085/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Olaf Stuger (ENF)

Subject: While the people suffer, Mugabe parties

At a time when his people are suffering poverty and starvation, Robert Mugabe spent EUR 1 million on food, drink and accommodation for thousands of guests at his birthday celebrations¹. Meanwhile, Zimbabwean journalists continue to be threatened². Mugabe's extravagance rightly draws criticism every year. Last year, for example, two elephants were slaughtered in honour of the oldest head of state in the world³. Zimbabwe has completely collapsed under Mugabe's 36-year rule. Three million people in the country are reliant on food aid, but, in the dictator's own words, you only turn 92 once.

Does the Commission still think it is acceptable to give EUR 234 million of taxpayers' money (primarily from the Netherlands)⁴ to a dictator who throws himself lavish parties while three million people in his country are reliant on food aid?

How many people in Zimbabwe, other than Mugabe himself, have benefited from the EUR 234 million in question? Please provide an overview.

How many elephants and other (endangered) wild animals were slaughtered in honour of Mugabe this year? Please provide an overview.

¹ <http://www.timeslive.co.za/africa/2016/02/27/Mugabes-lavish-92nd-birthday-party-angers-critics>

² http://www.telegraaf.nl/buitenland/25329364/___Mugabe_toont_vuist_na_vraag_over_pensioen___html

³ http://www.telegraaf.nl/binnenland/23729290/___PVV_laakt_slachting_olifanten___html

⁴ <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getAllAnswers.do?reference=E-2015-002872&language=EN>