

Question for written answer E-003294/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Siôn Simon (S&D)

Subject: Single seat for the European Parliament in Strasbourg

In the European Parliament, and across the Union, there is a large movement wishing to see Parliament adopt a single seat for its work. According to the Treaties, Parliament's 'official' seat is in Strasbourg, and a potential solution may be to move towards having a single seat in the city of Strasbourg.

However, in reference to Question E-010968/14, the Commission stated that the total cost of missions undertaken by Commission staff between the three places of work was some EUR 15.6 million.

1. Can the Commission confirm that this figure is largely attributable to the cost of travelling from Brussels to the European Parliament's seat in Strasbourg?
2. Based on this, can the Commission provide an estimate of the extra cost that would be incurred if Parliament were to have its permanent seat in Strasbourg (that is to say, by how much would visits to the Brussels chamber increase if such visits were made from Strasbourg)?
3. Finally, would such costs be likely to reduce the amount of contact that the Commission would commit to having with Parliament?