

**Question for written answer E-003692/2016
to the Council**
Rule 130
Marie-Christine Arnautu (ENF)

Subject: European institutions and the subsidiarity principle

Today, the European Union is deeply and deservedly unpopular. An increasing number of EU citizens see it as a bureaucratic supranational body which has no idea how ordinary people actually live. The outcome of the recent referendum in the Netherlands confirmed the growing disillusionment of the peoples of Europe with the European institutions.

At his hearing before the Council of Europe on 19 April 2016, the President of the Commission himself acknowledged this. In one of his statements he referred to a 'construction flaw' to explain the mistrust felt by the peoples of Europe towards the Union. He said that 'one of the reasons EU citizens have lost faith in the European project is that we interfere too much in matters which are central to peoples' private lives, that we don't properly uphold the subsidiarity principle'.

He is right: both the Commission and the European Parliament regularly ride roughshod over that principle.

Rather than just carrying on blithely as if nothing was wrong, does the Council not agree that we need to get back to a Union founded on voluntary cooperation among the EU Member States and dissolve the supranational European institutions, in particular the Commission, which are seeking to impose on the peoples of Europe a federal project of which they want no part?