

**Question for written answer E-006156/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Sofia Sakorafa (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Memorandum of Understanding regarding the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) three-year programme and compliance with rules on competition and state aid

Under the Memorandum of Understanding of August 2015, Greece entered into a number of commitments, including the sale of government assets to reduce the public debt.

In view of this:

1. Can the Commission say whether Greece is obliged to notify it regarding agreements for the sale of public assets, so as to determine whether they distort, or threaten to distort, competition within the meaning of the TFEU?
2. Are the ESM and the Commission required to consider whether such sales actually have the effect of reducing public debt or are simply benefiting certain undertakings in breach of competition rules in the EU?
3. If the terms of a sale are such as to actually increase the public debt, can this be considered to be in line with competition rules or with provisions prohibiting state aid, should the transaction involve a national undertaking?