

**Question for written answer E-006269/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: The toxic assets of European banks

The results of the recent stress tests on European banks were encouraging insofar as they showed how the banks have significantly increased their levels of own funds.

Nevertheless, the European authorities estimate that European bank balance sheets contain some EUR 1 trillion in bad debt.

What steps does the Commission plan to take to reduce the impact for EU banks of this bad debt/factor of vulnerability?