

**Question for written answer E-006432/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**María Teresa Giménez Barbat (ALDE)**

Subject: Towards rules on EU-wide citizens' associations

Forming associations is one of the most effective ways in which civil society can take concerted action, put forward ideas, hold debates and influence society. This is a powerful tool for creating networks of like-minded people and coming up with solutions to society's problems.

A great many associations are active Europe-wide, but the Commission is yet to come up with a regulation enabling the establishment of associations at this level. We are thus missing countless opportunities to forge social and cultural links between European citizens living in different countries.

Is the Commission aware of the importance of associations between citizens, and that the lack of legislation at European level is depriving them of a tool that would benefit society as a whole?

Does the Commission intend to propose new rules on this issue in the near future?