

**Question for written answer E-009010/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hannu Takkula (ALDE)

Subject: Marking the quincentenary of the Reformation in the EU

The Reformation which began with Martin Luther's theses in 1517 substantially altered not only Europe but the whole world. It is an uninterrupted process, which is still affecting the life of society, culture, the general world of ideas and attitudes. The preconditions for freedom of the individual, human rights and modern civil society began to take shape as a result of the Reformation. It has of course had an enormous influence on ecclesiastical life, and as a result has altered the historical development of our continent. The Reformation also set in motion an irreversible process of change within the Catholic Church.

What plans does the Commission have for marking its highly significant quincentenary in 2017?

How does the EU nurture the legacy of the Reformation and help to preserve the fundamental European values derived from it for the future?