

**Question for written answer E-001922/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Barbara Kappel (ENF)

Subject: Improving the convergence criteria of the Maastricht Treaty

The Treaty on European Union, known as the Maastricht Treaty, was signed in the Dutch city of Maastricht on 7 February 1992 and came into force on 1 November 1993. Among other things, it sets out rules for cooperation between the Member States and the rights and obligations of the individual Member States. The Treaty also saw the Member States agreeing for the first time on EU convergence criteria (the 'Maastricht Criteria'), which comprise pre-set fiscal and monetary values. These aim to boost the effectiveness of the national economies in the EU, resulting in basic economic stability and solidarity. 25 years have passed since the Maastricht Treaty came into force.

How does the Commission evaluate the Member States' compliance with the convergence criteria?

How can this compliance be improved?

How does the Commission evaluate the significance of the convergence criteria in terms of the economic cohesion of euro area countries?