

**Question for written answer E-001933/2017/rev.1
to the Council**

Rule 130

Takis Hadjigeorgiou (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Sexist and xenophobic comments by the Eurogroup President

According to a number of foreign press reports (<https://www.ft.com/content/2498740e-b911-3dbf-942d-ecce511a351e> and <https://www.neweurope.eu/article/pressure-grows-dijsselbloem-resign-sexist-xenophobic-remarks/>), the Dutch Finance Minister and Eurogroup President made the following racist and xenophobic remarks to the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung: 'As a Social Democrat, I attribute exceptional importance to solidarity. But they also have obligations. They cannot spend all the money on wine and women and then ask for help.'

In view of this:

1. Does the Council consider that the above remarks by the Eurogroup chief reflect a discriminatory attitude towards women and the southern European countries in general?
2. Does he agree that a person with such beliefs cannot be considered fit to represent the EU in a senior post, let alone as President of an organisation such as the Eurogroup?