

**Question for written answer E-005199/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
André Elissen (ENF)

Subject: Commissioners' travel expenses

After many years of litigation¹ the Belgian magazine Knack has finally been allowed, with others, to inspect Commissioners' expenses declarations. These show² that, in the first two months of 2016 alone, half a million euros were spent on travel and accommodation. The most expensive trip cost over EUR 75 000 for a visit lasting barely three days.

1. Why was it apparently necessary to wait three years before these declarations were published?
2. In the interest of transparency towards the European public, can the Commission publish a summary of all Commissioners' accommodation and travel costs during the current parliamentary term (since 2014), and is it prepared to publish a monthly summary in future?
3. Does the Commission consider it acceptable, and defensible to the European taxpayer, that High Representative Mogherini declared EUR 75 000 for a trip lasting barely three days to Baku, and what did this journey achieve?

¹ 'EU boss Juncker's flight cost EUR 25 000' (10 August 2017), http://www.telegraaf.nl/dft/28897740/___Vliegreis_EC-baas_Juncker___25.000___html

² 'Two months' expenses cost EUR 492 249: EU Commission publishes travel expenses for first time' (8 August 2017), <http://www.knack.be/nieuws/wereld/twee-maanden-492-249-euro-europese-commissie-maakt-voor-het-eerst-reisonkosten-publiek/article-normal-886195.html>