

**Question for written answer E-000228/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Barbara Kappel (ENF)

Subject: The Commission's draft budgetary plans (DBPs)

Following a marginal structural improvement in 2017, the Commission's draft budgetary plans (DBPs) correspond to a slight increase (by 0.1 % of GDP) in the euro area's structural deficit in 2018, while the most recent Stability Programmes still planned for an improvement on aggregate of 0.2 % of GDP.

The Commission also projects an increase of 0.1 % in 2018 for the euro area. This hides, however, substantial differences between the Commission forecast and the DBPs for individual Member States.

1. How does the Commission explain the difference between its forecast and the DBPs of the individual Member States?
2. What action will the Commission take to reduce this difference in the future?