

**Question for written answer E-001857/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)

Subject: Possible violation of the Staff Regulations and the Code of Conduct for European Officials by a Commission Director

Recent investigations by the Guardia Civil into the Catalan secessionist process have revealed that István P. Székely, Commission Director of Economic and Financial Affairs, met 'privately' with the team of Oriol Junqueras, former Vice-President of the Generalitat of Catalonia, who currently stands accused of rebellion in Spain.

According to the report on this investigation, the Director advised the Catalan separatists on how better to champion the cause of independence in order to secure more widespread support in the European Union. In so doing, István P. Székely violated his duty to carry out his work as a Commission official objectively, impartially and in line with the interests of the Union.

Bearing in mind the rules applicable to European Union officials, specifically Article 11 of the Staff Regulations and the principles of objectivity and impartiality laid down in the Code of Good Administrative Behaviour, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Is there any evidence to substantiate these allegations?
2. What action does the Commission plan to take?
3. How does the Commission ensure that all European Union officials comply with the rules laid down in the Staff Regulations and relevant codes of conduct?