

**Question for written answer P-009063/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Alessia Maria Mosca (S&D)**

Subject: European Research Area: greater transparency and more information about funding

In the wake of no less than 15 years of discussions the Competitiveness Council decided at its latest meeting to postpone the implementation review of the European Research Area until 2016 and announced that a further EUR 500 million had been secured to finance new scientific projects. Some stakeholders, however, have expressed criticism and say that they are perplexed about the apparent slowness and secrecy of proceedings concerning research at European level. Major economic interests are said to be involved, and it is also allegedly the case that large amounts of EU funding have been allocated to research but the public have not been properly informed about the outcome.

1. Will the Commission investigate and explain the mismatch that reportedly exists between the colossal public funds being used to finance research into existing cancer prevention systems and the results achieved, which are apparently considered to be negligible and inadequate?
2. Will it embark on new initiatives with a view to improving transparency and information regarding the selection criteria used for public financing of all scientific and research activities in Europe, taking into account the entire procedure, that is to say, from the time of granting EU contributions up to the demonstration stage and the point at which the ultimate findings are disseminated to the public?