

**Question for written answer P-002731/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Panama Papers

After OffshoreLeaks (2013), LuxLeaks (2014) and SwissLeaks (2015), we are now facing a fourth tax evasion scandal in as many years. This latest one centres on tax evasion and money laundering by high-level officials and public figures. Almost 214 000 legal entities are involved.

Europe's tax system needs to be reformed. To tackle these harmful practices effectively taxation needs to be uniform across the EU.

What is needed is not more tax, but for control of the tax base to be taken back.

1. Does the Commission plan to take action in response to this latest crisis. If so, what will it do?
2. The Commission has talked about an ambitious legislative proposal on a common consolidated tax base by the end of 2016. What progress has been made?
3. Billions of euros are channelled into tax havens every year. Given the Member States' public debt situation and the amounts they have to repay, would it not make sense to implement a common European tax system that would make taxation fairer?