

**Question for written answer P-001537/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Anneleen Van Bossuyt (ECR)**

Subject: Legal effects of recommendations

On 20 February 2018, the Grand Chamber of the Court of Justice ruled in the case of Belgium v Commission (C-16/16 P) that judicial annulment of recommendations cannot be sought pursuant to Article 263(1) TFEU. This means that Member States cannot contest recommendations with the aim of checking that they are lawful.

1. Does the Commission intend to continue to issue recommendations even on matters with regard to which it has no substantive competence under the Treaty?
2. Does the Commission intend recommendations to have legal effects in the Member States (as distinct from binding legal effects), or are Member States entirely free simply to disregard them?
3. Does the Commission believe that it can enforce recommendations in any way (e.g. by means of reporting requirements or in the context of the principle of sincere cooperation (Article 4(3) TEU)?