

**Question for written answer Z-004/2018**  
**to the Chair of the Single Supervisory Mechanism Board**  
Rule 131a  
**Ernest Urtasun (Verts/ALE)**

**Subject:** Political interferences in the work of the inspectors of the Spanish Central Bank

In the Spanish Congress' Inquiry Committee into the Spanish financial crisis, the Trade Union of Inspectors of the Spanish Central Bank delivered written evidence to the effect that the Spanish Central Bank dismissed officials that had uncovered irregularities in certain banks. It was provided examples of inspectors being transferred as a consequence of being considered "too demanding" or "not flexible" or "lacking of strategic vision" with the banks not fulfilling the regulatory requirements. The cases described include both significant institutions under the direct supervision of the ECB and less significant institutions. These revelations may mean a violation of the Guideline (EU) 2015/856 laying down the principles of an Ethics Framework for the SSM. And also, it could undermine the works of the Joint Supervisory Teams as established in the regulation 468/2014 establishing the framework for cooperation within the SSM between the EXB and NCA and also the SSM regulation.

Is the SSM aware of the staff bad practices by the Spanish Central Bank denounced by Asociación de Inspectores del Banco de España?

Is the SSM considering to open a formal investigation?

Did any of the transfers and dismissals described affect the composition of the Joint Supervisory Teams?