

**Question for written answer Z-036/2018
to the European Central Bank**

Rule 131

Nikolaos Chountis (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Loan settlement proposals drawn up by banks

According to a report drawn up by the Northern Greek Association for the Protection of Borrowers and Consumers and the attachments thereto, forwarded on 4 April 2018, Greek credit institutions have failed to submit any loan settlement proposals specifically tailored to the needs and possibilities of individual borrowers.

What the banks are proposing is uniform interest write-off and capital repayment in six monthly instalments on a ‘take it or leave it’ basis.

However, the information provided by many borrowers reveals that, even with benefits, they are living on or below the breadline. In view of this:

1. Can the ECB President say whether there is any specific reason for the ‘standardised’ loan settlement arrangements proposed by the Greek banks? Could banks, for example, offer repayment facilities beyond the six-month deadline to enable borrowers to settle their debts?
2. If low-income borrowers are unable to meet the proposed six-month deadline, will banks then be entitled to auction off their properties?