

**Question for written answer Z-13/2011
to the European Central Bank
Rule 118
Nikolaos Chountis (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Assessment of Greek banks by BlackRock

A few days after the results of the new stress test for European banks were made known, the Bank of Greece sought a reassessment of Greek banks by the BlackRock ratings team.

In view of this:

1. Can the President of the European Central bank say whether the stress tests carried out for European banks were reliable? If so, does he know why the Bank of Greece decided to seek an immediate reassessment of Greek banks by BlackRock?
2. Has any other central bank in the euro zone decided to seek reassessment of its banks by ratings firms following the stress test carried out in June?

Does the ECB share our concern that this measure may arouse suspicion or encourage rumours, possibly resulting in a further downgrading of Greek banks?