

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1030/02  
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to the Council

Subject: Appointment of senior Council officials

In 1999 and 2000, the European Commission laid down a number of guidelines for the appointment and career development of its senior officials. These rules include the following principles:

- Merit must be the dominant criterion for decisions on senior appointments;
- The career advancement of A1 and A2 officials must take due account of the results of regular performance appraisals;
- As a general rule, A1 and A2 officials are subject to mobility after 5 years and cannot normally stay in a post for more than 7 years;
- A1 posts are generally opened up to competition.

1. What rules does the Council apply to the appointment and career development of its senior officials?
2. How many A1 and A2 officials does the Council employ? How many are women? How many belong to ethnic minorities?
3. How many current A1 and A2 Council officials have been in their post for 5 years or more? How many have been in their post for 7 years or more?
4. How many open competitions have been held since 1999 for the replacement of A1 and A2 officials?
5. Does the Council plan to hold open competitions for future vacancies at A1 and A2 level? If not, why not?