

WRITTEN QUESTION E-3156/09
by Robert Goebbels (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Late payments from the Commission

The Commission has taken the laudable initiative of asking the Member States' public authorities to settle their accounts with enterprises within 30 days, failing which they would have to pay interest and compensation. Will this proposal, which aims to improve the cash flow situation of European enterprises, also be applied by the European institutions, starting with the Commission and its departments?

Under Directive 2000/35/EC¹ of 29 June 2000 on combating late payment in commercial transactions, the Commission gave itself the right to pay its own creditors within a maximum of 60 days, as against 30 days for the private sector.

Is this period of time, which the Commission has been allowing itself since the second half of 1997, now no longer applicable, and if so, since when?

¹ OJ L 200, 8.8.2000, p.35