

**Question for written answer E-007471/2011
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Funding of organisations of individual investors

On 4 March 2009 the Commission, in its Communication entitled 'Driving European recovery,' publicly pledged to provide direct funding for organisations of individual investors in order to offer fuller protection for the interests and rights of small and medium-sized investors. To this end, individual investors' organisations set up, on the joint initiative of Euroshareholders and FAIDER, the European Federation of Investors (EuroInvestors), in order to try to obtain the funding promised by the Commission. EuroInvestors is the only organisation representing individual investors in the EU.

Despite responding to calls for expressions of interest in 2009, 2010 and 2011 the organisation has not received any funding because of a stated lack of resources. It should be pointed out that funds were made available for the European Consumers' Organisation (BEUC) as well as for the new initiative Finance Watch, which calls into question the Commission's arguments. With this in mind, I would like to ask the following:

1. For what reasons, other than financial, have the organisations of individual investors not received funding for their activities?
2. Does the Commission intend to honour its pledge in the near future? If so, can it say when funds will be provided for the activities of the above-mentioned organisations?