

**Question for written answer E-010510/2012
to the Commission**
Rule 117
James Elles (ECR)

Subject: UK High Speed 2 (HS2) rail link - Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive

While HS2 Ltd and the UK Government do not dispute that an environmental impact assessment (EIA) is necessary for the HS2 project, they do not accept that this task should have been completed before the public consultation it held on HS2 was undertaken.

Does the Commission believe that the obligations set out in the EIA Directive, designed to encourage public participation in important environmental decision-making, has been adequately discharged by this approach?