

**Question for written answer E-003013/2013/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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**Subject:** Commission threatening Hungary following adoption of new constitution

After adopting its new constitution, Hungary found itself under attack from the Commission. Following the vote, President Barroso criticised the decision of the freely elected Hungarian Parliament. He also expressed regret that experts in Brussels had not had the chance to familiarise themselves with the changes and give a detailed analysis.

1. On what legal basis is the Commission providing this assessment of a constitution that has been passed by a freely elected majority representing the will and aspirations of the Hungarian people?
2. What provisions of the new constitution does the Commission believe to be in contravention of EU law?
3. Since when and on what legal basis are Member States required to consult the EU bureaucracy and the Commission on issues concerning their political systems?
4. On what legal basis is the Commission threatening to impose sanctions in response to the adoption by a democratically elected majority of changes to the political system that only apply within Hungary?
5. What sanctions could Hungary face for adopting the new constitution? If sanctions are imposed, would this not represent an attempt to interfere with a sovereign decision taken by a democratically elected parliament?