

**Question for written answer E-003366/2013
to the Commission
Rule 117
Peter van Dalen (ECR)**

Subject: EU staff cuts

In the multiannual budget for 2014–2020, the European Commission has proposed to cut the EU workforce by 5%. Recently, reports have appeared in EU staff union circles, including the TAO-AFI newsletter of 15 March 2013, that such cuts can be offset by expanding the Executive Agencies. Any excess European institution staff would then be offered a new position within these EU agencies.

1. Is the Commission aware of the reports that excess EU staff can be absorbed by the EU's Executive Agencies? If so, how does it view these reports?
2. Is the Commission of the opinion that such a policy is contrary to its proposals for the Multiannual Budget for 2014-2020 and that it affects the Commission's credibility? If not, why not?
3. Can the Commission confirm that the proposed 5% cut in the number of EU officials will actually lead to a 5% reduction in staff compared to the current situation? If not, why not?