

**Question for written answer E-003531/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Niki Tzavela (EFD)

Subject: Bank deposits in Europe

Speaking to *Reuters* and the *Financial Times*, Mr Dijsselbloem stated that the use of deposits to restructure the Cypriot banks may set a precedent for managing banking problems in the euro area. 'If there is a risk to a bank, the first question we ask must be: "Okay, what are you the bank going to do about that? What can you do to recapitalise yourself?" If the bank can't do it, we'll talk to the shareholders and the bondholders, we'll ask them to contribute in recapitalising the bank, and if necessary the uninsured deposit holders [deposits over EUR 100 000]', was what Mr Dijsselbloem had to say. Furthermore, on Tuesday, Chantal Hughes, spokesperson for Mr Michel Barnier, the EU Commissioner responsible for internal market and services, stated that there was a possibility that deposits over EUR 100 000 would be used to save ailing banks under new legislation being prepared by the European Union.

Speaking to journalists, Chantal Hughes, spokesperson for Commission Barnier, said: 'In the Commission's proposal, which is under discussion, it is not excluded that deposits over EUR 100 000 could be instruments eligible for bail-in. It is a possibility.'

Considering the above, will the Commission say:

- Is the EU's economic policy now moving towards taxation of deposits over EUR 100 000?
- Is this the first sign that the leaders of monetary union intend to force ailing banks to shoulder the lion's share of any restructuring or recapitalisation, by reducing the burden that taxpayers will be required to pay?
- Will the model predicted by Mr Dijsselbloem mean the end of the previous scheme of direct recapitalisation of ailing credit institutions from the permanent rescue mechanism (ESM)?