

**Question for written answer E-008401/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

**Bogdan Kazimierz Marcinkiewicz (PPE), Andrzej Grzyb (PPE), Jolanta Emilia Hibner (PPE),
Bogusław Sonik (PPE), Wojciech Michał Olejniczak (S&D) and Jan Kozłowski (PPE)**

Subject: Preliminary results of public consultations on shale gas

In December 2012, the Commission began public consultations on developing the use of shale gas in Europe. Preliminary data from the consultations show that a variety of different opinions have been expressed on the subject.

A total of 23 631 responses were submitted, including 96.5 % from individuals, 707 from organisations and 115 from public institutions. Fifty-three per cent came from Poland, 15 % from France, 14 % from Romania, 6 % from Spain, 4 % from Germany, 2 % from Belgium and 1.5 % from the United Kingdom.

- Does the Commission intend, on the basis of the results of the consultations obtained from Member States such as Latvia (one response), Greece (three responses) and Estonia (four responses), to draw detailed conclusions which will affect the whole of the European Union?
- Does the Commission think that responses made by ordinary citizens on detailed questions of law and technology are reliable as a source of information?
- Does the Commission intend to use these responses as the basis for initiating further action on natural gas obtained from shale? In view of the negligible public response in the majority of the Member States, is the Commission planning to undertake more extensive consultations?
- What method of analysis and extrapolation of raw data is the Commission going to use when developing further recommendations and drawing up the final report?