

**Question for written answer E-012531/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Tadeusz Cymański (EFD), Zbigniew Ziobro (EFD) and Jacek Włosowicz (EFD)

Subject: EU co-financing for abortion-related projects

According to 'The Funding of Abortion through EU Development Aid', a report published in 2012 by European Dignity Watch, EU funding has been allocated to two charities whose activities include the promotion of abortion in developing countries. The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and Marie Stopes International (MSI) have been awarded over EUR 18 million in EU grants. According to the official websites of these two organisations, their priorities include 'increasing access to surgical and medical abortion where the law allows' (MSI) and 'access to safe and legal abortion' as a public health and human rights imperative (IPPF).

Both the Commission and the Council have stated on many occasions that reproductive health issues lie outside the EU's remit (for example in the Commission's response of 26 April 2007 to question H-0239/07¹). Furthermore, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1567/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 July 2003 on aid for policies and actions on reproductive and sexual health and rights in developing countries, 'No support is to be given under this Regulation to incentives to encourage sterilisation or abortion (...) in developing countries'.

I should therefore like to ask the following questions:

1. Does the Commission have any information on the use to which EU funds are put by the IPPF or MSI?
2. What percentage of the allocated funding was spent by these organisations on the promotion of abortion or the provision of abortion services?
3. Are there plans to provide continued EU funding for organisations such as the IPPF and MSI which promote abortion?

¹ Written response of 24.4.2007.