

**Question for written answer E-012918/2013
to the Council**

Rule 117

Philippe Boulland (PPE)

Subject: Principle of proportionality as regards the European arrest warrant

Since the entry into force of the Council Framework Decision of 13 June 2002, the European arrest warrant has been very welcome, as it means criminals can no longer escape Member States' legal systems; however, a number of criticisms have been levelled at its implementation.

Some extradition requests do not comply with the principle of proportionality (Article 2(1) of the Council Framework Decision on the European arrest warrant). EU citizens are thus being extradited on grounds that are not serious enough to warrant criminal sanctions.

Does the Council think it is normal for matters that can be resolved administratively, such as maintenance settlements, to lead to a European arrest warrant being issued, thus making them criminal cases?

What steps does the Council plan to take to apply the principle of proportionality in practice?

Has the Council assessed the additional administrative costs incurred by Member States as a result of failures to apply the principle of proportionality?