

**Question for written answer E-014009/2013
to the Commission
Rule 117
Philippe de Villiers (EFD)**

Subject: Report of the European Court of Auditors

In its new report, published on 5 November 2013, the European Court of Auditors highlighted problems linked to the European Union's budget for the financial year 2012. Though the budget has been signed off, significant errors nonetheless remain.

'In most spending areas of the EU budget ... the legislation in force is still not fully complied with'. The Court thus recommends optimising the resources in question because 'the error rate for spending is 4.8 % for the 2012 financial year (3.9 % in 2011)', which corresponds to EUR 6.6 billion. This significant error rate is indicative of mismanagement.

Given the undeniable problems in the management of the budget allocated to it and in view of the comments of the European Court of Auditors, what decisions will the Commission take?