

**Question for written answer E-000218/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Sergio Berlato (PPE)**

Subject: Bilderberg Club's role and influence in Europe

Every year since 1954 the Bilderberg Club has brought together some of the most influential figures from North America and Europe in the fields of politics, industry, finance and the media. The purpose of the club would appear to be to enable the elite of Europe and North America to exchange information freely, away from public scrutiny. It would seem to be a highly influential private club that can address important political and economic issues. A number of investigative journalists writing mainly on the Internet have revealed very close connections between the annual Bilderberg meetings and certain important decisions taken by the European Union, particularly with regard to the European Stability Mechanism (ESM), as well as the successful careers of certain politicians who have attended them. Indeed, it seems that several politicians who have held or currently hold high office in the European Union have taken part in Bilderberg meetings in the past or very recently.

1. Does the Commission believe there may be correlations between the decisions reached by the Bilderberg Club and certain decisions taken by the European Union?
2. Can it confirm that the objectives and operational procedures of the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) serve the real interests of EU citizens whilst respecting the political sovereignty of individual countries and their right to decide democratically how public funds should be used?
3. Does it believe that politicians who hold or have held key positions in EU institutions and who attend meetings of the Bilderberg Club should be asked to provide a detailed account of their proceedings?
4. Does it intend to propose an inquiry to determine whether the transparency of democratic decision-making is threatened by the current or previous involvement of European politicians in the Bilderberg Club?