Question for written answer E-003384/2014 to the Commission Rule 117 João Ferreira (GUE/NGL) and Inês Cristina Zuber (GUE/NGL)

Subject: European citizens' initiative: 'Water is a Human Right'

It was recently reported that the Commission intends to reject the petition by the European citizens' initiative 'Water is a Human Right', which was signed by 1.8 million European citizens. According to information provided by a high-ranking official at the Commission, the institution sees it as 'politically difficult' for the Barroso administration to propose legislation which would then have to be negotiated by the next Commission after it takes office on 1 November 2014.

Given the importance of this initiative, its aims, and the impressive number of European citizens who have mobilised to demand the right to water as a public asset which should not be privatised, we wish to ask the Commission:

- 1. Can it confirm this information?
- 2. Now that this European citizens' initiative process has been completed (and is, in fact, the first in which citizens have managed to meet all the required conditions), what action does the Commission intend to take?

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