

**Question for written answer E-004046/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Véronique Mathieu Houillon (PPE)

Subject: Multilingualism in public consultation procedures

From 5 December 2013 to 5 March 2014 the Commission held a public consultation procedure on the review of EU copyright rules. Since the purpose of such a procedure is to gather as much feedback as possible from EU citizens and stakeholders on a topic chosen by the Commission, drawing up the relevant questionnaire in only one official language, in this instance English, makes no sense whatsoever. The language barrier and the comprehension issues it raises also call into question the representativeness of the answers, as does the further confusion created by the Commission including default answers on the questionnaire.

1. What is the Commission's policy on multilingualism in public consultation procedures?
2. Can the Commission say why it drew up the questionnaire in English only?
3. Does the Commission agree that the use of pre-completed questionnaires undermines the accuracy and objectivity of the information gathered?