Question for written answer E-001091/2016 to the Commission

Rule 130

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Subject: Suspicious transactions connected with Russian clients at Deutsche Bank

In an internal report on the activities of its Russian clients, Deutsche Bank identified USD 10 billion worth of suspicious transactions. These transactions appear to involve the transfer abroad of money from Russian businesses. What is more, the bank's clientele include a few of Putin's friends, who are affected by EU sanctions against Russia. Some USD 1 billion of these transactions were 'mirror trades' from 2014 and 2015 – the purchase of securities on one market and their sale on another as a means of exchanging money between jurisdictions.

The German regulator appears to be ignoring these cases entirely.

- 1. Is the Commission planning to intervene in the matter of suspicious transactions linked to businessmen closely connected with Vladimir Putin?
- 2. Are those suspicious transactions undermining EU sanctions against Russia and Russian citizens with connections to Putin?
- 3. How will the Commission make sure that money belonging to Russian businesses cannot be transferred abroad, especially with the help of Member State financial institutions?

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