

**Question for written answer E-000555/2019  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Kazimierz Michał Ujazdowski (NI)**

Subject:     Fora for debate on the future of the EU

In its document entitled 'Follow-up to the European Parliament non-legislative resolution of 3 July on the role of cities in the institutional framework of the Union', the Commission expresses concern that the establishment of European fora for debate in 54 European cities, which Parliament proposes in paragraph 32 of its report, could duplicate the work of the Urban Agenda for the EU established under the Amsterdam Pact in 2016.

I take the view that the establishment of such fora for debate would strengthen the Urban Agenda. While the Urban Agenda for the EU plays a positive role in establishing cooperation among the official representatives of cities – civil servants, mayors, etc. – the European fora for debate would aim to include in the discussions on the future of Europe a wide range of urban elites, such as groups that are involved in developing the intellectual and social potential of cities but do not officially represent them, as referred to in paragraph 22 of Parliament's report. This fundamental distinction shows that the two projects actually complement one another.

In the light of these clarifications, is the Commission prepared to reconsider its position and support the establishment of fora for public debate in European cities?