

Question for written answer E-001648/2019
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Corporate scandals in the European Union

Recently it has been revealed that the largest lending bank in Denmark, Danske Bank, is involved in a money laundering scandal. Investigations by the American authorities have also uncovered the involvement of the German bank Deutsche Bank, which stands accused of handling suspicious transactions totalling USD 150 billion.

This is not the first time, however, that the American authorities have caught German businesses committing illegal practices. Examples include Deutsche Bank itself for several other infractions, Siemens, MAN, Thyssen Krupp, Daimler, Volkswagen, Rheinmetall Defence, Ferrostaal, Commerzbank, Deutsche Telekom, and many others.

Given that:

- German multinationals are leading the field when it comes to illegal activities;
- the illegal practices of European companies impact the economy, and;
- the effectiveness of the American authorities in their investigations is clearly not unrelated to the commercial and economic competition that exists between the USA and the EU,

will the Commission say:

- (1) Has it calculated how much these numerous German and European corporate scandals are costing national budgets and European taxpayers?
- (2) Has the resulting financial damage to the EU itself been assessed?