

**Question for written answer E-003659/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Dimitrios Papadimoulis (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Revision of the Stability and Growth Pact

The European Fiscal Board (EFB) is proposing to revise the Stability and Growth Pact and to simplify budgetary rules in its annual report for 2018¹. It stresses that economic growth, though weaker than in 2017, allowed for 'fiscal cushions' in Member States with a high public debt, but the opportunity was lost, as the Commission avoided contributing to achieve this.

The EFB also questions the fiscal policy pursued within the euro area.

Will the Commission say:

1. Will it respond positively to the recommendations of the European Fiscal Board on the revision of the Stability and Growth Pact, but also on rules to protect growth-friendly public spending in periods of budgetary consolidation?

1. How does it view the recommendation to set up different public debt targets for each Member State?

2. How will it deal with the situation described by the EFB, according to which most of the high tax revenue was found in countries that already had fiscal space, taking advantage of the role of the national independent fiscal institutions mentioned in the report?

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/2019-efb-annual-report_en.pdf