

**Question for written answer E-006510/2020  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Virginie Joron (ID)**

**Subject:** French customs duties paid over to Brussels have doubled since 2000

In 2021, after Brexit, 44 % of funding for the EU will come from taxes and duties collected in Germany (40 billion, 26 %) and in France (27 billion, 18 %)<sup>1</sup>. In 2000, France's national contribution was half what it is now (13 billion and 1.4 billion in customs duties) and almost on an equilibrium with the rest of Europe (loss of 700 million in 2000 compared to a deficit of 7 billion in 2019).

In 2019, 100 % of the 2.2 billion in customs duties was transferred to Brussels from France, which is nearly one billion more than in 2000. This is as much as the figure for state-paid medical assistance<sup>2</sup>.

Recently, the French Government undertook to transfer the domestic tax on consumption of energy products (the TICPE) to the Directorate-General for Public Finances. While there is a certain logic to collection of this tax being transferred, transferring the whole taxation system (declaration, basis for assessment, physical check on goods) makes no sense and creates a risk of fraud and a security risk for consumers<sup>3</sup>.

1. Is it the Commission that is behind this measure?
2. Has the Commission issued the Member States with recommendations in this area?
3. Why has the amount paid over to the Commission from customs duties in France doubled, even though Brussels has in the meantime signed a great many free trade agreements?

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<sup>1</sup> Commission letter No 1/2021 of 13 November 2020, p. 4.

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.bfmtv.com/economie/economie-social/social/combien-coute-l-aide-medicale-d-etat\\_AV-201909250097.html#:~:text=Mais%20%C3%A0%20un%20rythme%20moins,le%20reste%20de%20la%20population](https://www.bfmtv.com/economie/economie-social/social/combien-coute-l-aide-medicale-d-etat_AV-201909250097.html#:~:text=Mais%20%C3%A0%20un%20rythme%20moins,le%20reste%20de%20la%20population) ([https://www.bfmtv.com/economie/economie-social/social/combien-coute-l-aide-medicale-d-etat\\_AV-201909250097.html#:~:text=Mais%20%C3%A0%20un%20rythme%20moins,le%20reste%20de%20la%20population](https://www.bfmtv.com/economie/economie-social/social/combien-coute-l-aide-medicale-d-etat_AV-201909250097.html#:~:text=Mais%20%C3%A0%20un%20rythme%20moins,le%20reste%20de%20la%20population)).

<sup>3</sup> <https://ufsecgt.fr/IMG/pdf/douanes.pdf> (<https://ufsecgt.fr/IMG/pdf/douanes.pdf>)