

**Question for written answer E-003947/2021**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Roman Haider (ID)**

Subject: Financial speculation

In recent years, cum-ex deals have cost the treasuries of EU Member States billions in lost revenue<sup>1</sup>. Even before this scandal broke, reckless investments were damaging the EU economy, and most recently they have sparked disruption with speculation on share prices tumbling as a result of the lockdowns and business closures caused by the pandemic. Despite all this, the free market obviously needs to be protected. Full regulation is not the answer, although it has been held up as such to date.

1. While the rules have been tightened after every financial crisis, how does the Commission intend to come up with solutions in the long term, or has it resigned itself to the status quo and will continue to only intervene with retroactive half-measures?
2. Does it have strategies for responding to problems more quickly, so as to restore functionality as soon as possible?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.labournet.de/politik/eu-politik/wipo-eu/cum-ex-files-angriff-auf-europas-steuerzahler/>