

**Question for written answer E-001179/2022
to the Council**

Rule 138

Jaak Madison (ID), Gunnar Beck (ID)

Subject: Lack of transparency and accountability during the Conference on the Future of Europe

Various commentators have mentioned the lack of transparency that has characterised the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE). The Commission's poor responses to questions relating to financial transparency and accountability¹ have exacerbated this idea that the outcome of the CoFoE has been predetermined and that the entire conference is a smokescreen to portray an image of inclusivity, participation and democracy.

1. What is the Council's position regarding the endemic lack of transparency of the CoFoE, particularly relating to financial accountability and transparency (i.e. the sources and amount of funding required for the conference)?
2. Does it agree that the lack of reporting, the lack of accountability and the non-existence of a public record of conference proceedings (including working group meetings) undermine the very principles of democracy, including requirements relating to transparency and accountability?
3. Does it agree that the clear pro-EU affiliation of the so-called experts providing all the input to the citizens involved in the CoFoE contributes to the perception that the proceedings lack objectivity and transparency?

¹ The Commission has not given a clear answer to the following questions on the funding of the CoFoE: E-002935/2021 (https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2021-002935_EN.html); E-002268/2021 (https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2021-002268_EN.html); P-003795/2021 (https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/P-9-2021-003795_EN.html); and follow-up question E-004172/2021 (https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2021-004172_EN.html).