

**Question for written answer E-002298/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Skewed distribution of nationalities at the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA)

In its answer to Written Question E-003174/2021, the Commission claimed to have called on ESMA to provide information on measures either taken or considered to promote geographical balance, given the vast under-representation of Germans among ESMA's staff. The Commission has also claimed to be 'focusing on the need to increase the presence of the under-represented nationalities in a fair way'.

According to ESMA's 2021 Annual Report, the number of Germans employed has only risen from 19 to 23 compared to 2020, while the number of Italian staffers, who were already heavily over-represented in 2020, has risen from 48 to 64. The same applies to Greeks, whose representation has increased from 18 to 21.

Quite contrary to what the Commission promised, geographical balance has deteriorated.

1. Why did the Commission not deliver on its goals, as stated in its answer to Written Question E-003174/2021?
2. How will it respond to the failure to address the need to increase the presence of the under-represented nationalities in a fair way, as indicated in its answer to Written Question E-003174/2021?
3. How does it explain the vast relative and absolute increases in Italian and Greek staff at ESMA in the past year?