

Question for written answer E-004104/2022
to the Council
Rule 138
Filip De Man (ID)

Subject: Abolition of Economic and Social Committee

The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) was set up in 1958 as a forum for trade unions, employers and civil society organisations to give advice to officials responsible for shaping the European single market.

Now that the single market is in place, however, the EESC is, in the words of its own President, Christa Schweng, nothing more than a 'network of networks'. For years now, Members of the European Parliament have been calling for the abolition of this institution, which no longer serves any purpose whatsoever.

It is also beset by numerous problems, including complaints of harassment that are not being addressed, the squandering of funds and lack of any clear mission. Abolition thereof could save the Union over EUR 150 million annually.

1. Is the Council considering the abolition of this institution for inclusion on its agenda?
2. If the Council is not willing to consider the abolition of the EESC, what role does it see for an institution that no longer serves any purpose?

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