Question for written answer E-000576/2023 to the Commission

Rule 138 **Ivars ljabs** (Renew)

Subject: Issuance of 1- and 2-euro cent coins

The Commission is well aware of the cost of continuing to issue 1- and 2-euro cent coins.

In its communication entitled 'Issues related to the continued issuance of the 1 and 2 euro cent coins', the Commission concluded that the economics of issuing 1- and 2-cent coins supported discontinuing their issuance.

In Regulation (EU) No 651/2012 on the issuance of euro coins², Parliament and the Council asked the Commission to conduct an impact assessment on the continued issuance of 1- and 2-cent coins and periodically and carefully examine their use against the criteria of cost and public acceptability.

The Commission work programme for 2020 included an evaluation of the use of 1- and 2-cent coins and of the possibility of introducing uniform EU-wide rounding rules.

In a Eurobarometer survey conducted in October 2022, 64 % of respondents said they supported abolishing 1- and 2-cent coins and applying mandatory rounding to the final total price of purchases in shops and supermarkets. This idea was supported by majorities ranging from 55 % to 84 % in all 19 countries of the euro area.

In the light of the above, when will the Commission publish an evaluation of the use of 1- and 2-cent coins, conduct an impact assessment and submit a legislative proposal on introducing uniform rounding rules?

Submitted: 22.2.2023

¹ COM(2013)0281.

² OJ L 201, 27.7.2012, p. 135.