

**Question for written answer E-002558/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Harald Vilimsky (ID), Georg Mayer (ID)**

Subject: Cash

In Austria a debate is currently ongoing on whether to enshrine the right to use cash in the constitution. The Commission's representative in Austria, Martin Selmayr, considers this to be a 'denial that we have a common currency in Europe'. In Slovakia, such a plan has already been implemented and the right to pay in cash has been constitutionally guaranteed. There is thus clearly a need for fully watertight legislation.

1. Does the Commission share its representative in Austria's opinion and consider the potential enshrining of the right to use cash in the Austrian constitution to be a 'denial' of the common currency?
2. Does the Commission intend to have such a right similarly guaranteed at EU level?
3. To what extent is whether Austria enshrines the right to make cash payments in its constitution a matter for the Commission or its representative in Austria, and why are these plans being publicly criticised?

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