Question for written answer Z-047/2020
to the Chair of the ECB Supervisory Board
Rule 141
Martin Schirdewan (GUE/NGL)

Subject: ECB supervision of Wirecard

The Eurosystem is responsible for the oversight of payment systems and instruments. Discrepancies in Wirecard’s finances were reported as early as 2015. Reuters reported on 29 June 2020 that from the second half of 2019, German regulators were in discussions including the ECB regarding the supervision of Wirecard, but that no action to strengthen supervision or investigate was taken\(^1\).

- Can the ECB outline the nature and extent of these discussions with German regulators, including what information it received, and explain why no investigation was opened nor supervision strengthened?

- Did the ECB classify Wirecard as a payment services company or as a technology company, and what is the ECB’s general approach to the classification of FinTech companies similar to Wirecard that engage in payment services as well as other activities?

- Has the ECB investigated the relationship between Deutsche Bank’s asset management fund DWS and Wirecard?