

Question for written answer Z-059/2020

to the European Central Bank

Rule 140

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Subject: Direct monetary transfers to eurozone households

Thank you for your previous answers to the written questions on non-traditional monetary policy. However, it was rather surprising to read your emphatic response to the effect that the Governing Council has not discussed the direct transmission of monetary policy to the Eurozone households, considering that the ECB has failed to reach its aim of keeping inflation over the medium term close but below 2% since 2013. One could have expected that in order to achieve this aim all policy options warrant examination by the Governing Council given the long-standing failure by the ECB to fulfil it. Along these lines, the Bank of England has included 'Helicopter Money' in its 2021 research agenda.

Your reply argued that 'such proposals do not fully address the associated operational, accounting and legal complexities nor provide a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis of the full economic and monetary impact'. Can the ECB release the analysis that sustains such conclusions?

Given the current economic situation, and the difficulties in monetary policy transmission, what other non-conventional and cost effective policies, beyond ultralow interest rates, targeted loans, and asset purchases are being considered by the Governing Council in order to achieve the said inflation aim?