

ORAL QUESTION H-0559/07
for Question Time at the part-session in September I 2007
pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure
by Lidia Joanna Geringer de Oedenberg
to the Council

Subject: The European Court of Auditors

The Maastricht Treaty of 1992 significantly changed the EU's institutional framework, incorporating into it the European Court of Auditors (Article 7 of the Treaty). By making the Court of Auditors one of its fundamental institutions, the Union demonstrated the importance it attached to transparency and the need to improve its work.

The Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe¹ also changed the institutional framework, excluding from it the Court of Auditors, which then came under 'other institutions and advisory bodies' in Title IV, Chapter II of the Treaty.

The ongoing work on a new treaty does not involve plans to amend the 'institutional framework', resulting in a deterioration of the status of the European institutions' external auditor. Given that the Union should be improving its accountability to citizens, can the Council explain its decision to lower the status of the Court of Auditors?

Tabled: 16.07.2007
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¹ OJ C 310, 16.12.2004, p. 1.