

ORAL QUESTION WITH DEBATE O-0052/10

pursuant to Rule 115 of the Rules of Procedure

by Joseph Daul, on behalf of the PPE Group, Martin Schulz, on behalf of the S&D Group, Guy Verhofstadt, on behalf of the ALDE Group
to the Council

Subject: What is the political relevance of the EU 2020 strategy in the context of the current financial and economic crisis?

1. What role does the Council see for the EU 2020 strategy in overcoming the current financial and economic crisis? Does the EU 2020 strategy take sufficient account of the interdependence of macroeconomic policy and structural change? Is the Council willing to support an ambitious proposal by the European Commission to strengthen the stability and growth pact? Does the Council accept that the strategy's ambitious targets depend on rapidly restoring growth to the European economy and that the prospects for stronger growth would be greatly enhanced by more effective coordination of macroeconomic policies? Will the Council support measures to equip the Union with the capacity to implement coordinated policies for growth, investment and competitiveness?
2. Does the Council believe the current proposals are sufficiently ambitious to make the European economy a world leader in 2020? How will the Council ensure that the budgetary plans of the Union and the Member States reflect the priorities of the EU 2020 strategy and that funding and reforms are consistent, at European and national level, with the policy objectives and targets to which the European Council has signed up? Is the Council ready to accept and propose secondary legislation in order to establish a more binding EU 2020 framework for Member States? How can the EU 2020 strategy help implement the necessary structural reforms?
3. What role does the Council see for the Commission and Parliament in the task force established by the European Council in March 2010 in order to improve economic governance in the Union?

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Deadline for reply: 26.05.2010