

**Question for oral answer O-000075/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 115

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on behalf of the EFD Group

Subject: European Treaties and the crisis

Further to the rather unsatisfactory answer to my written question E-010892/2012, I sent President Barroso two essays by Professor Giuseppe Guarino, respectively entitled 'The euro: twenty years of depression (1992-2012)' and 'Saving the euro, saving Europe. An imaginary interview'. The two texts state that the cause of the depression that has been afflicting the EU and the euro area for around fifteen years lies in the application of Regulations (EC) Nos 1466/97, 1055/2005 and 1175/2011, and, more recently, of the Fiscal Compact.

With regard to the substance and assessment of these texts, can the Commission answer the following questions:

Does the Commission deny or confirm that Regulation (EC) No 1466/97, the subsequent Regulations (EC) Nos 1055/2005 and 1175/2011 and the Fiscal Compact are illegitimate or unlawful, since they are in breach of the EU Treaties?

Does the Commission deny or confirm that Regulation (EC) No 1466/97 and subsequent acts have replaced the goal of 'development', conferred upon the EU and the euro by the Treaties, with the different, and indeed opposite, goal of balancing the budget?

Does the Commission think it is reasonable to assume that there may be a connection between the depression that has had Europe in its grip for several years and the failure to actually implement Article 104(c) of the Treaty on European Union (TEU), the protocol on the excessive deficit procedure annexed thereto and the identical rules laid down in subsequent Treaties – theoretically, still in force – which were adopted as a tool to be used by the Member States for achieving development but which, in practice, have been replaced by the entry into force of Regulation (EC) No 1466/97?

Tabled: 24.6.2013

Forwarded: 26.6.2013

Deadline for reply: 3.7.2013