

**Question for oral answer O-000011/2014
to the Council**

Rule 115

Sylvie Goulard, Anneli Jäätteenmäki, Sophia in 't Veld
on behalf of the ALDE Group

Subject: Cooperation of Member States on information exchange in the area of taxation

There has been much progress at EU level over the past 12 months on the clamp-down on tax evasion, including recent proposals by the Commission to expand automatic information exchange and fight VAT fraud, along with the parent-subsidiary directive. There has also been a strong commitment at the highest political level internationally to both a new global standard of tax transparency and the base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) project against tax avoidance. At the Economic and Financial Affairs Council (ECOFIN) of December 2013, many Member States declared their willingness to lead the way in implementing this new global standard. However, no agreement was reached on the savings directive, as two Member States were not in favour.

Does the Council think that an agreement will be made on the savings directive by March 2014, as per the ECOFIN conclusions of December 2013?

How does the Council assess the Global Forum report of November 2013, in which it is stated that certain Member States do not comply with OECD standards on tax transparency?

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Deadline for reply: 6.2.2014