

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2426/10
by Diana Wallis (ALDE)
to the Commission

Subject: Revision by the Commission of rules on the creation and functioning of expert groups under Framework C(2005) 2817

1. Is the Commission aware of Parliament's resolution on transparency in financial matters (P6_TA(2008)0051), and in particular of paragraph 38 thereof, in which the EP 'insists that the Commission must, before the end of 2008, develop an open, transparent and inclusive process for selecting members of new expert groups, and must inform Parliament no later than February 2009 of the new selection criteria'? Does the Commission agree with this request from the EP? And if so, what follow-up action has the Commission taken in this respect?
2. Can the Commission, in particular, confirm that it is currently revising its Communication of 27 July 2005 entitled 'Framework for Commission's expert groups: horizontal rules and public register' (C(2005)2817) with a view to making the composition of its expert groups more transparent and balanced?
3. Does the Commission agree that, with the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, and in particular in the light of Article 11 of the consolidated version of the TEU, and of Article 15 of the consolidated version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU, transparency has become a core principle for all EU institutions?
4. In the light of the above and Parliament's resolution on a revised Framework Agreement between the European Parliament and the Commission (for the next legislative term) (P7_TA(2010)0009), and notably paragraph 3 thereof, is the Commission prepared to consult Parliament before taking any final decisions with regard to the possible revision of its rules on expert groups, considering that, in accordance with the articles mentioned above, transparency has become an issue of common concern to both the Commission and the Parliament?
5. If so, when can Parliament expect concrete proposals from the Commission? If not, how does the Commission reconcile its attitude with the new provisions of the Treaties and Parliament's resolution on the Framework Agreement (P7_TA(2010)0009)?