

**Question for written answer P-004704/2012
to the Commission
Rule 117
Tamás Deutsch (PPE)**

Subject: Ombudsman election in Luxembourg

The European Commission has severely criticised on several occasions the laws and procedures relating to the election of ombudsmen in some Member States.

In Luxembourg, a law establishing the institution of ombudsman was only introduced after the new millennium. The first ombudsman was elected on 21 January 2004, whereas previously there had only been a parliamentary petitions committee.

From February 2012 and for the next eight years, the post of ombudsman in Luxembourg will be filled by a former socialist member of Parliament who herself initiated the introduction of the law governing her current position, and had a crucial involvement in drafting it.

On this basis, I am asking whether the Commission does not regard the procedure in Luxembourg as seriously unacceptable from the perspective of legislation on the ombudsman's institution, our common European regulations and the protection of democracy?