

**Question for written answer P-000263/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
George Sabin Cutaş (S&D)

Subject: Tax havens

While welcoming the package of minimum standards regarding transparency, exchange of information and fair tax competition (C(2012)8805) referred to in the Commission's answer of 18 December 2012 (P-010648/2012), I nevertheless consider further measures to be necessary, for example a European list of tax havens.

Such a list would be useful in numerous areas at European level, encompassing economic and trading activities as well as the activities of a number of institutions, including the European Investment Bank, which has frequently come under fire for its involvement in projects facilitating tax avoidance through non-transparent jurisdictions¹. In this connection, a European list of tax havens would enable the bank to select projects, recipients and intermediaries in full knowledge of the facts, thereby ensuring that public funds were used in a more responsible manner, generating economic growth more effectively.

In view of this, does the Commission consider it necessary to draw up a list of European tax havens, focusing in particular on areas of competence and European institutions? Does the Commission intend in the near future to launch a dialogue with the European Investment Bank so as to assist it in applying minimum standards of good governance with regard to tax issues arising in connection with the selection of projects, recipients and intermediaries?

¹ <http://www.counterbalance-eib.org/?p=621>