

**Question for written answer P-001900/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Gerard Batten (EFD)**

Subject: The Scottish referendum, the EU budget and the United Kingdom

Mr Barroso recently said that if the Scottish people vote for Scotland to leave the UK in their referendum later this year, it would very 'difficult if not impossible' for Scotland to join the EU in its own right.

If Scotland does vote to leave the UK, when that separation is formally completed, it will raise certain questions.

1. The UK joined the EEC in 1973, but that political entity will no longer exist. What would be the membership status of England, Wales and Northern Ireland?
2. If it would be 'difficult' or 'impossible' for Scotland to rejoin in its own right, would it be equally difficult or impossible for the remainder of the UK to join in its own right?
3. Alternatively, would the EU allow the remainder of the UK to remain a member without any need to formally renegotiate its terms of membership?
4. If Scotland was no longer to be a member of the EU, but England, Wales and Northern Ireland were to remain a member, would the UK contributions to the EU budget be reduced to reflect the corresponding loss in population and economic resources?