

**Question for written answer P-001970/2014/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Nuno Melo (PPE)

Subject: The Serralves Foundation, Portugal

The existence and activities of foundations operating in the Union for the benefit of the public good are crucial in the fields of education, training, research, historical memory and reconciliation between peoples, protection of the environment, youth and sport, as well as arts and culture, with many of the projects undertaken by such foundations having an impact far beyond national borders.

In 2012 the Commission issued a proposal for a Council regulation on the European foundation statute to make it easier for foundations to support public benefit causes across the EU. Following the adoption by Parliament of its resolution of 2 July 2013 on the proposal for a Council regulation on the Statute for a European Foundation, it is imperative that negotiations on this important piece of legislation move forward quickly so as to provide the foundation sector with this new instrument of which it has been clearly in urgent need.

The Serralves Foundation is recognised as one of Portugal's leading cultural institutions and the most distinguished in northern Portugal. The foundation, international in its scope and serving also the national community, has as its mission to raise awareness on contemporary art and environmental issues.

1. What are the Commission's priorities regarding EU cultural policies, in particular with respect to the system of tax incentives in place for cultural patronage and artistic donations, and the establishment of a European database for cultural projects, given that the existence of a European database of cultural institutions would serve to strengthen networks and cross-border links?
2. In view of the various fields of activity of the Serralves Foundation, to which EU funding programmes would it be eligible to apply?
3. When does the Commission expect to have established the legal framework for the European foundation statute?