

**Question for written answer P-003777/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Carlos Coelho (PPE)

Subject: Europe for Citizens programme 2014-2020

The Lisbon Treaty contains mechanisms to bring the Union closer to its citizens, particularly by adding a new dimension to participative democracy and seeking to encourage cross-border debate on EU policies.

At a time when the economic, financial and social crisis is exacerbating a crisis of trust, it is more important than ever to foster citizen's awareness of the Union's role and achievements, to try to strengthen their feeling of belonging to Europe.

The Europe for Citizens programme forms part of a package of measures aimed at building civic participation capacities by trying to mobilise citizens at local level to join the debate around specific issues of European interest, boost their awareness of the impact Union policies have on their daily life and give them the chance to influence Europe's future.

The programme for the 2014-2020 period provides for support to organisations of general European interest and to transnational partnerships and networks, on the one hand, and to organisations which promote debate and activities centred on European values and history, on the other.

Given the important role which should be played by this programme in promoting European citizenship and bringing Europe closer to its citizens, could the Commission clarify the following:

1. What is the current state of play, and has there in fact been a delay in the start of this programme?
2. Can it confirm that this delay is due to the fact that the United Kingdom has not yet completed its national procedure (pursuant to Article 352 TFEU), which is preventing the programme from being adopted by the Council?
3. How does the Commission intend to carry out this important programme to promote European citizenship, implementing the resources allocated to it by the budgetary authority?