

**Question for written answer P-000133/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Gilles Pargneaux (S&D)

Subject: Compliance by the Commission with Article 5.3 of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control

On 5 October 2015 the European Ombudsman, Emily O'Reilly, found that the European Commission headed by José Manuel Barroso had not been sufficiently transparent in its relations with the tobacco industry.

The Commission failed to comply with an essential provision of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, Article 5.3, which requires any contact between officials and lobbyists from the tobacco industry to be made public.

The Ombudsman therefore asked the Commission to publish all the meetings between Commission officials and the tobacco industry. The Commission was also required to present by 31 December 2015 the measures it intended to take in order to comply with the recommendations of the European Ombudsman.

The WHO has drafted a document highlighting examples of good practice in applying Article 5.3 where the Commission is not even mentioned. The Commission is doing less well than countries as varied as Brazil, Bulgaria, the Netherlands, the Philippines, the United Kingdom and even Swaziland.

What measures has the Commission now adopted to ensure that all its Directorates-General finally comply with Article 5.3 of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control?