

**Question for written answer P-006239/2018  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Karol Karski (ECR)**

Subject: Local authorities in international legal dealings

Local authorities with a particular legal status in their respective Member State sometimes take on a representative role for that Member State in international legal affairs. At first glance, this would sometimes appear to be primarily for social, economic or even cultural reasons. There is more to it than that, however, and more clarity is needed on the legal character of international agreements concluded between different regions, which vary in terms of status and characteristics.

- 1) In the Commission's view, should Member States' local authorities be given greater autonomy when acting in the international sphere?
- 2) How should the autonomy of the individual Member States' local authorities in the field of international cooperation be perceived?
- 3) What legal status do the foreign branches of Member States' local authorities have?