Question for written answer P-001734/2019 to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Reform of the transfer system in football

The role of football as part of the cultural heritage, as well as its social aspects, imply the responsibility of the organisations and stakeholders who govern the game. This requires a robust regulatory framework in compliance with EU law, and a consistent application in line with the principles of good governance in sport (as outlined in the Takkula report of 2016).

The European Treaties and fundamental freedoms need to be respected. Therefore, we expect the Commission to play an active role in order to ensure that the principles behind the 2001 agreement with FIFA are being honoured through revised and new regulation.

Will the Commission therefore take up the issue and provide advice to the Football Stakeholders Committee, which is working on a review of the transfer system?

To what extent can the Commission promote a level playing field within and between football competitions, while safeguarding players’ rights and fostering the development of young players and the sustainability of the industry?

Is the Commission willing to consider legislative initiatives to counter excesses such as exorbitant player agent fees, money laundering schemes involving fraudulent transfers, and other threats affecting the integrity of the sport?

The general interest is at stake, namely that of the wider public that enjoys playing and watching football. That is why we support a transparent and responsible dialogue aimed at guaranteeing the future of football.