

# EU ZOO DOKUMENTATION

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Fra: WALLIS Diana  
Til:  
Dato: 18/01/2011 10:28  
Emne: QUESTION TIME

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to you as one of the Vice Presidents responsible for Question Time to follow up on the very justified comments made by Mr Chountis and Mr Posselt at the opening of the session yesterday. They very rightly brought to the attention of the President the way in which Question Time to the Council has been dropped from our agenda on the last three Strasbourg sessions. This is not acceptable.

Whilst there have been changes in our relationship with the other institutions since the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the new arrangements foreseen by both our own Working Group on the Reform of Parliament and the new framework agreement with the Commission to adopt a more interactive Question Hour with the Commission have not been brought into force. Likewise there is still a need in relation to external relations for members to have the right to question the Council.

I have suggested at a recent Bureau meeting that there should be no further deletion or dilution of Question Time as and until the full possibilities under any new arrangements are clear and in force so that members are not inadvertently deprived of their very important rights of scrutiny. However it is a matter for the Conference of Presidents to set Parliaments agenda and may I therefore suggest that those who feel strongly about this issue ensure that their group leaders are clear about the importance attached to Question Time before Thursday's meeting of the Conference.

Yours sincerely,

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