

Question for oral answer O-000026/2017

to the Council

Rule 128

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on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

Subject: Mr Dijsselbloem's remarks on what caused the economic crisis in southern Europe

The President of the Eurogroup and current Dutch finance minister, Mr Dijsselbloem, said in an interview with the German *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* (FAZ) published on 20 March 2017: 'Being a social democrat I regard solidarity as something very important. However, who asks for it also has duties. I cannot spend all my money on booze and women and after that ask you for financial support. This principle applies to the personal, local, national and European level.'

Does the Council find Mr Dijsselbloem's wording acceptable and in line with his responsible position? Furthermore, does the Council find Mr Dijsselbloem's statement on personal spending on women and alcohol followed by a request to others for financial support appropriate in the context of the economic problems of southern Europe? If not, could it please elaborate on what otherwise caused the economic problems?

Tabled: 28.3.2017

Forwarded: 29.3.2017

Deadline for reply: 19.4.2017