

**Question for written answer E-003229/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
David Casa (PPE)

Subject: Disclosure of the origin of conflict minerals

The Commission has recently proposed that the EU call on European importers of gold, tin, tungsten and tantalum – four metals and minerals frequently found in war zones – to disclose the origin of their stocks¹. However, the proposal does not outline any obligations for importers to do so, which has triggered criticism from other EU bodies.

In 2010 the USA adopted a similar, but harsher, law which requires importers of the above-mentioned four metals to disclose the origins thereof.

Why did the Commission refrain from including any obligations in the proposal?

¹ <http://www.europeanvoice.com/article/2014/march/metals-and-minerals-proposal-causes-conflict/79913.aspx>