

**Question for written answer E-004717/2016
to the Council**
Rule 130
Bernd Kölmel (ECR)

Subject: Reform of the electoral law of the European Union

Can the Council answer the following question in connection with the European Parliament resolution of 11 November 2015 on the reform of the electoral law of the European Union, which proposes a minimum threshold of at least 3% for Member States with more than 26 parliamentary seats?

The draft legislative act stipulates that a party in a small Member State may be represented in the European Parliament if it receives enough votes to gain a seat. In large Member States, however, a minimum threshold might deny a party representation in the European Parliament even though the votes it had secured would otherwise entitle it to two or more seats.

In the Council's view, how democratic is this?