

**Priority question for written answer P-002801/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Paulo Rangel (PPE), José Manuel Fernandes (PPE), Álvaro Amaro (PPE), Maria da Graça Carvalho (PPE), Lídia Pereira (PPE), Cláudia Monteiro de Aguiar (PPE)**

**Subject:** Decision by German Federal Constitutional Court on the European Central Bank's public sector purchase programme

The German Federal Constitutional Court's decision of 5 May 2020 has called into question the legality of the public sector purchase programme (PSPP) run by the European Central Bank (ECB). The Court has decided that this programme oversteps the limits of the ECB's monetary policy competencies as conferred in the Treaties and requires the ECB to justify those measures on the basis of the principle of proportionality.

In view of the fact that the Commission is guardian of the Treaties and therefore responsible for their application:

1. Does it consider that the Court's decision calls into question the independence conferred on the ECB by the Treaties? If so, to what extent?
2. Does it consider that the Court's decision calls into question the authority of the Court of Justice of the European Union? If so, to what extent?
3. To what extent could this decision compromise the EU's capacity to respond to the crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic?