

**Priority question for written answer P-000802/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
João Oliveira (The Left)

Subject: Stability pact escape clause to promote militarism and war

The rising cost of living is making life harder for workers and their families. More than 90 million people in the EU are at risk of poverty and social exclusion, including 20 million children. Difficulties accessing housing are becoming more acute. And yet the Commission continues to give priority to militarism and make the arms race the driver of what it sees as a war economy.

During the Munich Security Conference, the President of the Commission announced that she would propose an escape clause for the stability pact for what she euphemistically called ‘defence investments’, which constitute nothing more than a boost for militarism, higher military expenditure, an arms race and war.

In the light of the above:

Will the Commission propose an escape clause that could also be used for investment intended to step up public services and state social functions, raise wages in public administrations, bolster pensions, investment in the expansion and renovation of public housing stock or restoring public control of strategic economic sectors?

Submitted: 21.2.2025