



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
EUROSTAT

The Director-General

Luxembourg,  
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Mr Pieter Omtzigt  
Member of Parliament for the Dutch  
Christian Democratic Party CDA  
Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal  
Plein 2 – PO Box 20018  
NL - 2500 EA The Hague  
THE NETHERLANDS

**Subject: Parex Bank and the EBRD**

Dear Mr Omtzigt,

Thank you for your letter of 26.08.2014.

Eurostat is aware of the put option provisions included in the shareholders agreements concerning Parex Bank, and its successor companies, between the government of Latvia and the EBRD. It has the relevant documents and has been informed by the Latvian authorities that these are to be considered confidential.

The put option provisions allow the EBRD to sell its relevant shareholdings back to the Privatisation Agency (which is classified within the general government sector of Latvia) under certain conditions, which include sale of Citadele Bank by the Privatisation Agency.

The mentioned provisions do not meet the definition of financial derivatives in the European System of Accounts (ESA 95; paragraphs 5.65 to 5.68) and are considered as guarantees. Guarantees are treated as contingent liabilities under ESA95 (paragraphs 5.05, 7.12 (c) and 7.22) and therefore no government liability is to be recorded in the Latvian statistical data.

It may be worth noting that any future call on this guarantee would be recorded as a government expenditure, thereby increasing the Latvian government deficit at that time.

The statistical treatment of this issue under the newly introduced European System of Accounts (ESA 2010) remains the same.

Yours sincerely,

Walter Radermacher