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President

Mr Nick Griffin Member of the European Parliament European Parliament 60 Rue Wiertz B-1047 Brussels

Frankfurt, 13 January 2011

L/JCT/11/033

## Questions on the printing of former currencies by euro area countries

Dear Mr Griffin,

Thank you for your letter concerning rumours that certain euro area countries are printing their former currencies, which was passed on to me by Ms Bowles, Chair of the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee, under cover of a letter dated 1 December 2010.

The European Central Bank (ECB) never comments on rumours. As you know the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union grants the ECB the exclusive right to authorise the issuance of euro banknotes in the euro area.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]