# Common system of financial transaction tax

2011/0261(CNS) - 08/11/2011

The Council took note of a **presentation by the Commission** of a proposal for a directive aimed at introducing a financial transaction tax in the EU.

It asked the Council working groups to examine the proposal.

The Commission considers that its proposal will enable the financial industry, currently under-taxed in relation to other sectors, to make a fair contribution, and will also create a disincentive for transactions that do not enhance the efficiency of financial markets.

The Commission estimates that, depending on market reactions, this proposal could yield tax revenues of up to **EUR 57 billion a year**.

In line with its proposal for a decision on the EU's system of own resources, the Commission proposes that the revenue generated by a financial transaction tax be used, either wholly or partially, to gradually replace member states' contributions to the EU budget, thus alleviating the burden on national treasuries.