Question for written answer E-005819/2014 to the Commission Rule 130 Norbert Neuser (S&D) and Jutta Steinruck (S&D)

Subject: Competition law: Nürburgring state-aid procedure

DG Competition is carrying out an investigation into state aid granted to the Nürburgring motor sports complex in Rheinland-Pfalz. On 28 May 2014 and 6 June 2014, the Rhein-Zeitung reported on internal documents produced prior to a decision on the state-aid procedure.

On 28 May 2014, in an article entitled 'Nürburgring subsidies were illegal', the Rhein-Zeitung stated: 'This fact has emerged from an internal pre-decision document, as our newpaper has learnt from reliable sources'. The source of the information can be no other than the Commission's DG Competition, as is clear from the newspaper articles. Furthermore on 2 July, on the SWR Landesschau programme MEP Werner Langen was quoted giving information on the state-aid procedure.

As MEPs from Rheinland-Pfalz, the discussions and decisions in connection with the Nürburgring state-aid procedure are of great interest to us. According to press reports, MEP Werner Langen received information from the Commission.

How does the Commission explain the fact that one MEP was apparently targeted to receive internal information on the state aid procedure which was not simultaneously made available to other MEPs from the region concerned?

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