Question for written answer E-006621/2014 to the Commission Rule 130 Ernest Maragall (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Purchase of Canal+ by Telefónica

One of the reasons why Spain is less developed than other EU Member States is almost undoubtedly its lack of a truly competitive market and the fact that its economy has traditionally been dominated by an oligopoly of a few large companies. The energy sector, which provides the most expensive energy in Europe, is a case in point and not the only one.

It is therefore both surprising and disappointing that the Commission has decided that analysis of the impact on competition of Telefónica's purchase of Canal+ should be left to Spain, along with any decisions pertaining to it.

- 1. Why has the Commission relinquished its responsibility in this respect? Could it reconsider its decision, in light of the clear concentration of market power by Telefónica?
- 2. What evidence needs to be provided in order for this decision to be reconsidered?

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