

**Question for written answer E-011038/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Carlos Iturgaiz (PPE)

Subject: Dutch tax lease system, equal treatment and EU governance

In December 2012 a complaint was submitted to the Commission about the Dutch tax lease system for shipbuilding, with particular reference to the accelerated depreciation provisions for the financial years 2009, 2010 and 2011, pointing out their selective nature and the fact they were combined with other tax incentives.

Since then a number of parliamentary questions have been submitted to the Commission with the aim of safeguarding equal treatment and preventing the arbitrary application of EU competition rules.

Two years on, the Commission has failed to launch a single official investigation procedure while the Dutch shipbuilding industry continues to benefit from the opposed system and strengthen its competitive advantage over dockyards in the other Member States. A complaint has consequently been filed with the European Ombudsman.

The situation was brought up during Commissioner Vestager's confirmation hearing, and she promised to ensure equal treatment and sound EU governance.

1. Can the Commission specify how much progress has been made in the investigation and when it expects to initiate proceedings?
2. Has the Commission now received all the information it requires from the Dutch authorities and completed its analysis of the opposed system?