

**Question for written answer E-011266/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Morten Messerschmidt (ECR)**

Subject: Potential distortion of competition in dance schools

An owner of a dance school in Denmark has drawn my attention to the fact that there is a potential distortion of competition in dance schools in Denmark, as private dance schools, which have fallen in number from 300 to 72 in the past 30 years, are unable to compete with local authority-run and funded dance clubs open to all, which are provided with premises and financial support and are also exempt from Koda-Gramex charges for the right to play music. This dance school owner has also told me that an appeal on grounds of distortion of competition has been rejected by the EU as the distortion was not deemed to be transnational.

The Danish law on public education, which makes this potential distortion of competition possible, threatens to close down the last private dance schools in Denmark.

Is it true that the Commission will not challenge a distortion of competition if it is not transnational?

Does the Commission believe it is reasonable that publicly-funded clubs can drive private providers out of existence?

If not, will the Commission initiate an investigation into the circumstances described above and if proved correct, prevent the Danish law on public education from depriving private providers of their means of existence?