

Question for written answer E-003643/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)

Subject: Elimination of barriers to trade in the Single European Market

The European Union is still in the process of building a Single European Market that runs efficiently and in which the boundaries of particular Member States will not mark the boundaries of realistic opportunity to conduct business.

Unfortunately, it is apparent from information provided by European commercial organisations that businesses interested in conducting business in other EU countries are still encountering numerous obstacles.

By way of example, in the Czech Republic, legislation has been introduced concerning trade in food, imposing a duty on importers to inform the relevant authorities of the price, source and weight of a product 48 hours prior to its entry onto the Czech market. These changes have particularly affected Polish food producers. In Hungary, on the other hand, the Act on Commercial Buildings (above 400 m²) entered into force on 1 January 2015, which significantly hinders and even prevents the construction of large-scale shopping centres.

In this way, many Member States are adopting practices which, by creating new barriers, are restricting the freedom to conduct business, which violates the basic principles of the single EU market.

In respect of the above, I ask the European Commission whether it is monitoring the legal and factual position in Member States in the above regard and what steps it is taking to eliminate domestic legislation and practices that are inconsistent with EU law, violating the principle of the Single European Market?