Question for written answer E-004730/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Morten Messerschmidt (ECR)

Subject: Mergers in the Danish telecomms market

There are currently four network operators in the Danish mobile market: TDC with a 40 % market share, Telenor with 23 %, TeliaSonera with 17 % and Hi3G with 13 %. The merger between TeliaSonera and Telenor (the TT merger) will therefore effectively create a duopoly in the Danish mobile market. TT and TDC will jointly hold 80 % of Danish mobile customers, 82 % of the turnover in the Danish mobile market and 85 % of the frequency spectrum.

- 1. How will the Commission ensure that there is still competition on the Danish mobile market if Telia and Telenor merge, and how will it also ensure that it does not become more expensive for Danish consumers to use their mobile phones, if Telia and Telenor merge?
- 2. How will the Commission ensure that the approval of the merger between Telia and Telenor does not effectively create a duopoly, when Telia/Telenor and TDC will then hold 80 % of the market?
- 3. Can the Commission provide examples of earlier mergers, where fewer network operators have resulted in lower prices for consumers?

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