

**Question for written answer E-005582/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Tania González Peñas (GUE/NGL) and Pablo Iglesias (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: 'Tax lease' harmonisation

Spain is a country with a long tradition of naval construction. This sector of industry still directly and indirectly employs thousands of people in our country. However, since the 1980s naval construction in Spain has been suffering a major contraction within European naval production as a whole. In Spain, many companies dedicated to the naval sector have closed down, adjusted staffing levels or drastically reduced the employment terms of their workers. The need to improve and modernise facilities in order to be competitive on the international market has often come up against European competition policies, which have prevented greater public investment in the naval sector. Thus, cross complaints between Member States regarding the different 'tax lease' models brought about by the lack of fiscal harmonisation in the EU have created legal uncertainties for investors and shipbuilders, a situation which benefits still further the Asian naval sector, which monopolises almost 70 % of the market.

Has the Commission considered the adoption of additional measures to reduce this uncertainty and avoid competition in the internal market weakening our competitiveness in relation to Asia?