

Question for written answer E-006916/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Franz Obermayr (NI)

Subject: Prison sentences for breaches of antitrust laws

There have been discussions in Germany in the past few weeks on expanding the penalty system for breaches of antitrust laws; for some time now, under US law, managers in breach of said laws have been able to receive prison sentences. This has the effect of further discouraging breaches of antitrust laws, since it penalises the individual and not 'just' the enterprise they manage, as is the case with fines.

1. What is the Commission's stance on prison sentences for managers who breach antitrust laws?
2. Does it consider uniform European provisions along these lines to be worthwhile?
3. What effects would prison sentences have on the leniency system?