

**Question for written answer E-007512/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Decision on the investigation into Estaleiros Navais de Viana do Castelo

In today's press release, the Commission says it has concluded that 'around EUR 290 million of public support granted by Portugal to Estaleiros Navais de Viana do Castelo, S.A., the former operator of shipyards located in Viana do Castelo in Portugal, was not compatible with EU state aid rules'. This conclusion has been reached following an investigation that began in January 2013.

However, the text of the Commission's decision has not yet been made available to the public, which means that the decision cannot be scrutinised other than on the basis of the rather vague arguments put forward in the press release.

The Commission's conclusions are based on assessments that are not free of subjectivity and which are likely to be contradicted – as is frequently the case in this kind of procedure.

1. Following the Commission's draft decision, has the Portuguese Government to date made any statement and/or objection, or is the Commission aware that it might do so?
2. Have Member States involved in this sort of procedure concerning the naval construction industry in the past contested the Commission's initial draft decision?
3. Where a Member State involved in such a procedure has made a statement and/or objection, has this led to a final decision that differs from the Commission's initial decision?