

**Question for written answer E-008917/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Julie Girling (ECR)

Subject: Tobacco Products Directive - Follow-up question

In its answer of 7 May 2015 to Question for written answer P-005527/2015, the Commission stated, regarding the implementation of REMIT Regulation No 1227/2011, that 'the additional period granted in Regulation 1227/2011 was a decision by the co-legislators, explicitly set out in the basic legal act'.

I would like to draw the Commission's attention to the fact that, while Regulation (EC) No 1227/2011 does envisage a grace period of six months before implementing acts on reporting would become applicable, the Commission nonetheless decided in the end to extend this period informally by an additional period of three months.

This fact is demonstrated not only by the text of the relevant implementing act (Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1348/2014) adopted on 17 December 2014, but also the Commission's own summary record of the meeting of the REMIT comitology committee held on 3 October 2014, where the additional grace period was agreed upon.

The decision was a response to concerns expressed by Member State authorities, as well as by industry stakeholders, regarding the amount of time required to implement the necessary changes to reporting regimes.

Therefore, does the Commission agree that this is a valid precedent that it should take into account when considering current stakeholder and Member State concerns about the timing of implementing acts planned under the Tobacco Products Directive 2014/40/EU?