

**Question for written answer E-011018/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Following the Commission's formal investigation into Amazon's e-book distribution arrangements

According to a Commission press release¹ of 11 June 2015, the Commission 'has opened a formal antitrust investigation into certain business practices by Amazon in the distribution of electronic books ('e-books'). The Commission will in particular investigate certain clauses included in Amazon's contracts with publishers. These clauses require publishers to inform Amazon about more favourable or alternative terms offered to Amazon's competitors and/or offer Amazon similar terms and conditions than to its competitors, or through other means ensure that Amazon is offered terms at least as good as those for its competitors.'

The Commission reportedly has concerns that certain clauses included in Amazon's contracts with publishers concerning such e-books could constitute a breach of EU antitrust rules that prohibit the abuse of a dominant market position and restrictive business practices.

When the investigation comes to an end and Amazon is found to be breaching EU antitrust rules, what measures can the Commission adopt against Amazon?

¹ http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-15-5166_en.htm