Question for written answer E-012938/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Richard Sulík (ECR)

Subject: G-komponent in Slovakia

'G-komponent' is a charge electricity producers in Slovakia have had to pay, since 1 January 2014, for access to the transition and distribution systems. The charges for producers linked to the transition system and for those linked to the distribution system are very different. The worst hit by G-komponent are alternative electricity producers who make use of combined heat and power (CHP) and renewable energy sources (RES), and who receive direct support from the EU under Directive 2012/27/EU. For some, G-komponent means that they have to pay up to 50 % of their income in tax. Producers which operate on the basis of feed-in tariffs are bound by the maximum commodity price defined each year by national regulation, although G-komponent does not take account of this. In the price of commodities, G-komponent affects only Slovak producers trading on the internal market. It considerably weakens their competitiveness on neighbouring markets and in Slovakia, where they must face producers from countries that do not impose a tax of this kind.

Is G-komponent not a breach of Regulation 838/2010/EC and Directive 2012/27/EU? Is the difference between payments for the distribution and transition systems not at odds with EU law?

Is this discrimination against Slovak electricity producers trading abroad, which puts them at a disadvantage vis-a-vis foreign suppliers not affected by similar charges, in line with EU law?

Does the Commission know which other Member States have an equivalent of G-komponent for producers who are linked to the distribution system and who operate on the basis of support from feed-in tariffs?