

**Question for written answer E-013847/2015  
to the Commission  
Rule 130  
Franz Obermayr (ENF)**

Subject: Abuse of dominant market position by IJF

According to the criteria drawn up by the Commission in the 'Danish Tennis Federation (DTF)' case, the selection of sports equipment manufacturers shall be transparent, non discriminatory and open to all suppliers.

The case in question here concerns clarification of the matter of compliance with these criteria by the International Judo Federation (IJF) in its business practice. By organising inter-regional judo competitions, the IJF already has something approaching a monopoly position. The IJF makes participation in such competitions conditional on participants wearing only clothing licensed by the IJF. Since 2010 the IJF has insisted on payment of an inspection fee of EUR 1 210 for the issue of a licence, together with USD 50 000 to be paid into an advertising pool. In addition, there is a minimum charge of USD 9 000 for inspection labels, which are attached to the items of clothing.

Manufacturers are thus authorised to provide clothing on the basis of financial criteria. If a manufacturer of sports articles cannot pay the fees, items made by that manufacturer are not permissible in inter-regional competitions. This has resulted in the Austrian STAPRO GmbH company being squeezed out of the market in inter-regional judo events.

Will the Commission state whether the case outlined above constitutes abuse of a dominant market position by the IJF, according to Article 102 TFEU?