

**Question for written answer E-002008/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Lorenzo Fontana (ENF)

Subject: Tax evasion by multinationals

According to some press reports, the Italian Finance Guard has established that Google has evaded tax amounting to EUR 227 million, and five Google Italia managers are under investigation for that reason. The tax fraud apparently relates to unpaid corporate income tax (Ires) for the years from 2008 to 2013.

Back in 2004 the Commission had to deal with Microsoft's abuse of its dominant position, for which it fined the company EUR 497 million.

In the light of the above reports, the current economic crisis, and Italy's fiscal difficulties:

- Is the Commission aware of the facts referred to above?
- Will it carry out checks, not least with a view to preventing situations of this kind, which have occurred several times in Member States?