

Question for written answer E-004244/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Edward Czesak (ECR)

Subject: Non-tariff barriers in the single market

Non-tariff barriers (NTBs) are disproportionate or discriminatory regulatory actions which result in a burden or cost to be borne by a firm which seeks to enter a market, and which is not borne by firms already in the market, or a cost which accrues to non-national firms which is not borne by domestic firms, without prejudice to the Member States' right to regulate and the pursuit of legitimate public policy objectives, such as protection of the environment and consumer or employment rights. Despite the removal of tariff barriers, the free movement of goods and services has continued to be hampered by NTBs, such as unjustified national technical rules and regulatory and non-regulatory requirements governing products and service providers.

With that in mind:

1. What steps does the Commission intend to take to ensure enforcement in practice, making sure that single market rules are duly applied and implemented by the Member States, and when does it intend to take them?
2. Will the Commission take action to improve coordination of the process of implementing transposed directives, for example by means of transposition workshops organised by the Commission and exchange of best practices in order to minimise differences between Member States at an early stage?
3. Will the Commission act to improve the application of mutual recognition?