

**Question for written answer E-000999/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Isabella De Monte (S&D)**

Subject: 'De minimis' regulation on state aid

The current Regulation (EU) 1407/2013 sets a ceiling of EUR 200 000 over three fiscal years and has remained unchanged for the past 10 years, despite the change in Europe's economic and financial situation which is having a negative impact on the ability to boost growth and employment.

The criterion for calculating the threshold for 'de minimis aid', based on the definition of 'single undertaking', is likely to significantly reduce the applicability and, in any case, 'meaningfulness' of this instrument.

The halving of the threshold for undertakings active in the road freight transport sector for hire or reward has also remained unchanged, even though the purchase of vehicles is not eligible for such aid.

Would the Commission not consider it advisable to review these regulations, by considering the following:

- the need to raise the ceilings or reduce the reference period;
- placing the road freight transport sector for hire or reward on an equal footing with other sectors;
- verification and possible adjustment of the implementing rules in the event of a 'single undertaking' and calculation of compliance with the threshold only with regard to the final beneficiary, in the event of de minimis aid granted to non-financial intermediaries who fully pass on the advantage downstream?