

**Question for written answer E-001975/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Alex Mayer (S&D)

Subject: Heineken's acquisition of Punch Taverns

Heineken is proposing to take over Punch Taverns in the UK.

There is concern from my constituents that this could reduce competition, and thus choice for consumers, if the acquisition is approved.

Pubs play an enormous role as community hubs and add a value that is not measurable in purely monetary terms.

Can the Commission explain what account is being taken of the unique nature of pubs when assessing the reduction in choice for consumers that would follow from the acquisition of Punch Taverns by Heineken?