WRITTEN QUESTION P-1349/04 by Bart Staes (Verts/ALE) to the Commission

Subject: Investigation into protection of the ink cartridge market

In its reply to Written Question E-0699/03¹, the Commission states that it 'has recently initiated a case concerning, amongst others, the inkjet cartridges and printers sectors. It is currently analysing the conduct of a number of companies in these markets in light of the Community's competition rules.'

Can the Commission indicate what further steps it has taken in this area in the interim and whether the analysis of the ink cartridge and printer market carried out in light of the Community rules on competition is positive?

If it has not taken any further steps, can the Commission indicate what arguments formed the basis of its decision that further investigation is unnecessary?

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¹ OJ C 33 E, 6.2.2004, p. 71.