

**Question for written answer P-009834/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Emma McClarkin (ECR)

Subject: Tobacco Products Directive - consequences for the packaging industry

Can the Commission confirm that in its ongoing preparatory work with regard to the Tobacco Products Directive that it is operating to the explicit principle of an open-standard and not a prescribed technology, thereby ensuring that the benefit of cost effective competitive supply solutions are maintained within the EU and also guaranteeing protection from counterfeiters who could match a single technological specification?

Also can the Commission confirm that the costs of deploying a new specification versus continuing use of higher security features has been fully evaluated in the cost benefit analysis from the review?

When does the Commission expect its preparatory work on the implementation of Article 16 to be concluded, providing the packaging industry with information that is essential to their ongoing business?