

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0410/01  
by Karla Peijs (PPE-DE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Ban on certification markings from private service undertakings

The so-called 'Blue Guide' states, in explanation of the ban on third-party certification markings, that voluntary markings must not as a general rule relate to aspects that already fall within the scope of the CE marking.

Is the Commission aware that the effect of this blanket ban on third-party markings in areas to which the CE marking applies is to turn the relationship between rules and exceptions established in the texts of directives as regards authorisations and prohibitions into its opposite, and to jeopardise the survival of European third-party certification agencies?

How can the Commission justify using a non-legally binding document (Blue Guide), on which the European Parliament has had no say, to intervene against existing market structures with such far-reaching consequences?