

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4122/05  
by Stanisław Jałowiecki (PPE-DE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Discrimination against Polish motor trade companies on the French market

I should like to draw the Commission's attention to the discrimination practised against Polish motor trade companies on the French market and to ask it to take appropriate action to clear the matter up.

The problem resides in the fact that large French firms are refusing to recognise Polish approval certificates issued in accordance with EU law and are demanding that UTAC (Union Technique de l'Automobile, du Motocycle et du Cycle - the French certification body) approval certificates be produced in their stead.

Despite the fact that they can produce approval certificates that are issued in accordance with EU legislation and are recognised throughout the Union, Polish motor vehicle parts suppliers are in practice being forced to repeat the approval process (at great cost). This constitutes clear discrimination against them and is evidence of dishonest practices being used to combat competition from the new Member States.

This situation is made all the more disturbing by numerous reports of unfair treatment of Polish service providers in France. This begs the question of whether this is just a temporary problem or whether it is, perhaps, the French way of competing with the new Member States.

Failing to comply with EU law and raising administrative barriers in breach of EU legislation which discriminate against companies from the new Member States is quite clearly contrary to the idea of a common market.

Would the Commission conduct an in-depth investigation into such practices on the French market and then take appropriate action?