

**Question for written answer E-000405/2011
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Carl Haglund (ALDE) and Herbert Dorfmann (PPE)

Subject: The opportunity for EU citizens to view TV broadcasts from another EU country

Broadcasts by the Swedish commercial channel TV5 are coded, which means that one needs a de-coding card in order to view them. These de-coding cards can only be purchased if you are a Swedish citizen, which means that the 300 000 Swedish-speaking Finns outside Sweden do not have the option even of paying for a licence to view TV5. The harmonisation of broadcast copyright law would serve the interests of both the individual customer and the provider, and would also strengthen the internal market of the European Union – and promote the cultural rights of the 40 million EU citizens who regularly use a regional or minority language, be it in Südtirol, Svenskfinland or Komárno.

Does the Commission intend to present legislation with the aim of harmonising broadcast copyright law, thereby strengthening both the internal market and the legitimacy of the EU at grass-roots level?