

**Question for written answer E-003928/2011
to the Commission**
Rule 117
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Subject: Decision on a ban on exports of pharmaceutical products from Greece to other Member States

The Greek health authorities (EOF) have recently imposed a ban on exports of a considerable number of pharmaceutical products from Greece to other Member States. In terms of the volume and type of the products concerned, the decision is specifically aimed at products for which Greece has an export market in other Member States.

The export ban ordered by the EOF is a clear restriction on European trade and contravenes Article 35 TFEU.

Article 35 TFEU provides that 'quantitative restrictions on exports, and all measures having equivalent effect, shall be prohibited between Member States'. The case law of the European Court of Justice has stressed the validity of this provision by stating that Article 35 TFEU does not permit national measures whose objective or effect is to restrict exports.

Could the Commission carry out an investigation with the Greek authorities in order to ensure that the EU's principles of transparency and free competition have not been infringed?