

**Question for written answer E-010090/2012  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Morten Løkkegaard (ALDE)**

Subject: Censoring of cultural products

The US company Apple has on many occasions rejected or modified the content of digital cultural products offered on iBookstore and iTunes. The reason given for doing so is that the products do not comply with Apple's rules, albeit without any further explanation.

One example of such censorship is the rejection of Peter Øvig Knudsen's two-volume work 'Hippie 1' and 'Hippie 2'. As a result, the author covered up the nude pictures with apples; and that was initially accepted by Apple, which offered the work on iBookstore. Shortly afterwards, however, the work was deleted - again without giving reasons.

1. Is the Commission proposing to intervene over Apple's censoring of digital cultural products on the European market?
2. Does the Commission believe that this form of censorship is compatible with the EU freedom-of-expression requirement under the Treaty?