

**Question for written answer E-010120/2012
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Sven Giegold (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Market power of companies in the crisis countries

The latest Macroeconomic Policy Institute report 'Crisis, quo vadis?'¹ argues on page 12 that the effects of adjustment in the crisis are partly reflected in increased profits and capital income. This is also an expression of the significant market power of companies in the crisis countries.

In this context, can the Commission answer the following:

1. What is its opinion on the above statements? Please answer separately for Greece, Portugal, Spain, Slovenia and Ireland.
2. What measures have been supported by the Commission in the crisis countries – perhaps in conjunction with the Troika missions and/or economic policy recommendations – to reduce the market power of companies or promote the flexibility of price levels? Please answer separately for Greece, Portugal, Spain, Slovenia and Ireland.
3. What additional measures is the Commission planning to promote? Please answer separately for Greece, Portugal, Spain, Slovenia and Ireland.

¹ http://www.boeckler.de/imk_5269.htm?produkt=HBS-005355&chunk=1&jahr=