

**Question for written answer E-010985/2012
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Adina-Ioana Vălean (ALDE)

Subject: Compensation for universal service providers

While universal services ensure access to telecommunication networks and the internet for everyone, universal service obligations (USO) are not compensated in all Member States. USO are imposed on incumbents in all Member States. The relevant EU directive makes provision for due compensation for incumbents that provide this service in accordance with Article 12 of that directive. Nevertheless, the time needed for the procedure to reach a decision on due compensation (if any) differs widely among the Member States, leading to discrimination between incumbents in different Member States.

1. Is the Commission aware of this problematic issue?
2. What does the Commission intend to do to ensure that decisions on USO compensation are taken within a reasonable period of time throughout the Member States?