

**Question for written answer E-001163/2013  
to the Commission  
Rule 117  
Toine Manders (ALDE)**

Subject: Better communication concerning the internal market

A survey by the Netherlands Chamber of Commerce indicates that 30% of entrepreneurs in the Netherlands do not know what the internal market is and what added value it possesses. In addition, a highly successful organisation, SOLVIT, is completely unknown. The survey also showed that many entrepreneurs still have problems with the differences in product regulations between countries, claiming VAT refunds abroad or enforcing contractual obligations. The EU is currently spending more than €200 m on communication, but evidently without achieving results.

Does the Commission agree that the current communication policy is achieving insufficient results?

If so, what practical proposals will the Commission make for further improving communication and awareness of European law concerning the internal market?

If not, can the Commission indicate why, time and again, surveys show that entrepreneurs and consumers know so little about the internal market?