Question for written answer E-003325/2013 to the Commission Rule 117 Norbert Neuser (S&D)

Subject: EU State aid procedure - 'Nürburgring' race track

For some time there has been an ongoing EU State aid procedure relating to the 'Nürburgring' motor racing track in Germany, located in the federal state of Rhineland-Palatinate. Various racing events are held at the 86-year old 'Nürburgring' in the Eifel region. Around 90% of these racing events are grassroots sporting events. These events are organised by motor sport clubs and are devoted to amateur sports. Other amateur sports events also take place, such as cycling and athletics track events and duathlon competitions for all comers. In short, it can be said that the 'Nürburgring' motor racing track is a unique cultural asset that caters primarily for grassroots sports.

- 1. Is it conceivable from the Commission's point of view, in particular in view of the information given above, for the race track itself to be excluded from the planned sale?
- 2. If so, is it correct that the necessary invitation to bid for the race track would not be issued and that the invitation to bid would only relate to the other commercial building units?
- 3. If the Commission were to exclude the race track from the sale, would a legal clause in the transaction contracts, namely one securing public access to the race track for grassroots sports, be compatible with EU legislation?

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