

**Question for written answer E-004397/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Sidonia Elżbieta Jędrzejewska (PPE)

Subject: Revision of Commission Regulation (EC) No 800/2008 of 6 August 2008 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the common market in application of Articles 87 and 88 of the Treaty

On 31 December 2013, Commission Regulation (EC) No 800/2008 of 6 August 2008 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the common market in application of Articles 87 and 88 of the Treaty will expire. This legal act is of vital importance for disabled people and their employers. It reaffirms that supporting the training and recruitment of particularly disadvantaged or disabled people and providing compensation for the additional costs associated with the employment of disabled people are key economic and social policy aims for the EU and the Member States. In this connection, assistance for the employment of workers from these groups in the form of financial subsidies, as well as compensation for the additional costs associated with their employment, are compatible with the Common Market within the meaning of Article 87(3) of the Treaty establishing the European Community and are not subject to notification.

Given the upcoming expiry of the regulation, I put the following questions to the Commission:

1. Is work under way in the Commission on a new regulation to replace Commission Regulation (EC) No 800/2008 of 6 August 2008?
2. Has a draft of the new regulation already been produced?
3. Has an indicative date been set for the entry into force of the new Regulation declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the common market in application of Articles 87 and 88 of the Treaty?