

**Question for written answer E-006129/2013
to the Commission
Rule 117
Sławomir Nitras (PPE)**

Subject: Modernisation of State aid control

On 8 May 2012, the Commission issued the Communication 'EU State Aid Modernisation'. This document includes the following statement: '... robust State aid control goes hand in hand with the effective implementation of EU internal market rules and is of particular relevance in markets that have only recently been opened and where large incumbents aided by the State still play a major role, such as transport, postal services or, in more limited cases, energy'.

Since some of the proposals contained in this communication could potentially have a negative impact on the social and economic situation in the Voivodeship of Western Pomerania, I should like to ask the Commission the following questions:

1. Are subsidies for municipal enterprises, including municipal transport firms, going to be brought under EU rules for the provision of State aid? If they are, how does the Commission justify the appropriateness of its decision in view of the fact that these subsidies will then be subject to protracted bureaucratic procedures and will therefore become much less effective?
2. Is the Commission planning to include municipal enterprises in the 'block exemption' category? If so, how does the Commission intend to monitor whether subsidies provided are compatible with the rules on State aid?
3. How does the Commission plan to clarify the concept of 'State aid' and ensure that this information is properly communicated and made understandable to businesses?