

**Question for written answer E-007492/2013  
to the Commission  
Rule 117  
Konrad Szymański (ECR)**

**Subject:** Amendments to the Commission's General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) and the situation as regards the employment of disabled persons in Poland

The Commission recently tabled a draft General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) to replace the current Commission Regulation (EC) No 800/2008. According to the draft, the annual funding limits for aid programmes exempt from the notification procedure will be 0.01 % of gross domestic product, or EUR 100 million.

In Poland, annual spending under the State Fund for the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons amounts to over EUR 750 million, providing support for over 18 000 companies which employ disabled persons and approximately 240 000 employees.

The entry into force of the regulation in its proposed form will mean that the system for supporting the employment of disabled persons in Poland will need to be abolished and will equate to job losses for disabled persons.

1. Is the Commission aware of the aforementioned consequences of the proposed amendments to Regulation (EC) No 800/2008 for disabled persons employed in Poland?
2. Will the Commission attempt to modify the proposed amendments to the regulation?
3. What steps can the Commission take to prevent disabled persons being adversely affected?