

**Question for written answer E-009574/2013/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Peter van Dalen (ECR)

Subject: Strikes by German lock-keepers

In recent weeks officials of the German Waterways Agency (Wasser- und Schifffahrtsverwaltung, WSV), which is responsible among other things for the management of canal locks in Germany, have repeatedly gone on strike in response to a planned reorganisation. The officials in question have still not reached any agreement with the German Transport Ministry and have already announced that they will continue paralysing the German canal network and a number of rivers for weeks more if necessary. These strikes are severely impairing the free movement of goods, and causing much damage to the European internal waterways transport sector.

1. Does the Commission agree that these strikes are disproportionately impairing the free movement of goods in the EU? If not, why not?
2. Is the Commission prepared to approach the German government about its Treaty obligations concerning the free movement of goods? If not, why not?