

**Question for written answer E-012543/2013
to the Commission
Rule 117
András Gyürk (PPE)**

Subject: Best practices to fight VAT evasion in European steel markets

The European steel industry is the second largest steel producer in the world and is of strategic importance for several other major European industries.

However, the global competitiveness of the European steel industry is at risk due to low demand, high operational costs and unfair international trade restrictions. Creating a level playing field and fighting against illegal activities within the steel markets are therefore key priorities for the EU.

In the light of the above, could the Commission answer the following:

1. How does the Commission intend to fight illegal activities, including VAT evasion?
2. Is the Commission aware of any precedents for VAT evasion in Member States?
3. What best practices are in place to fight VAT evasion in the steel production market?