

**Question for written answer E-013949/2013  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Robert Sturdy (ECR)**

Subject: RoHS and the electronic toy market

On 21 July 2011 the Restriction of Hazardous Substances in Electrical and Electronic Equipment (RoHS) Directive 2011/65/EU (RoHS 2) entered into force, requiring Member States to transpose its provisions into their respective national laws by 2 January 2013. The United Kingdom has taken measures to ensure that businesses comply with this new legislation, such as having a dedicated team responsible for enforcement.

One of the requirements of RoHS 2 is that lead be removed or reduced to below a certain threshold in electrical and electronic equipment, with certain exceptions. In order for the Directive to be effective and not distort the market, all EU Member States must comply with it. However, it has been brought to my attention that in some product categories, such as electronic toys, the RoHS lead content requirements are not being complied with for imports of components from outside the EU. As enforcement is primarily conducted at Member State level, this disparity could lead to a distorted internal market and unfair competition between businesses.

1. Is the Commission monitoring the implementation and application of RoHS 2 in the Member States?
2. What is the level of compliance with RoHS 2 in the EU?
3. What steps is the Commission taking to ensure compliance with the new Directive?
4. Is the Commission aware of any compliance problems in Member States with imports of components for electronic toys?