

**Question for written answer E-003267/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Claude Turmes (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Quality of the postal services in the EU

The Commission ordered the study 'Developments in the postal sector 2010-2013' from the consulting firm 'WIK Consult'. The recommendations aim at a revision of the postal directive and can be summarised as follows:

- more flexible design of the scope of the universal service;
- reducing the regulation of prices and quality if market forces suffice;
- regulating services outside the universal service;
- non-discriminatory VAT policy;
- transparency on the market;
- increase of legal certainty in the use of competition law.

Why did the Commission order this study?

Does the Commission plan to comply with the conclusions of this study and therefore call into question postal secrecy and quality standards, as well as further strengthening the loss of quality and the phenomenon of 'social dumping' in the European postal sector?