

**Question for written answer E-001900/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**József Nagy (PPE)**

Subject: Offshore companies

In several instances reported in recent months, Member States have been seeking to attract foreign multinational companies by offering special, preferential treatment, including substantial tax reductions.

I believe that a coordinated EU strategy needs to be developed to tackle this issue. This practice is of concern to all Member States, whether they are winners or losers in this tug-of-war. Not to take concrete action would be to disregard the principle of solidarity. 'Offshoring' companies in this way is to ensure that the corruption we are supposed to fight will flourish. The insecure ownership structure of such companies underpins corruption, essentially killing the entrepreneurial environment, and raises questions about the political credibility of many countries.

What exact steps does the Commission intend to take in this regard? How are our citizens to be assured of our willingness to ensure transparency in these matters?

Are there any surveys that show how these instances of 'offshoring' have influenced public opinion with regard to the EU? If so, could these results influence the outcomes of the national elections that are to be held soon in certain Member States?