

**Question for written answer E-006676/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Ulla Tørnæs (ALDE)**

Subject: Special economic zones

In its answer to a written question (E-009672/2014) the Commission stated the following: 'Special economic zones are not by definition harmful under the Code of Conduct but have in some cases been considered harmful as they were limited to foreign companies, have not required any substantial activity and the rules have not been transparent.'. By way of follow-up to this:

1. Does the Commission think it acceptable that, in some cases, special economic zones are considered harmful? If it does not, can it say what tangible steps it will take to ensure that, in future, special economic zones cannot be regarded as harmful?
2. Does the Commission think it acceptable that the rules on special economic zones have not been transparent? Can the Commission explain how it expects rules which are not transparent to be administered and applied?