

**Question for written answer E-014056/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Elisa Ferreira (S&D)

Subject: Controversial software - Volkswagen

The American Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) found out that cars made by Volkswagen (VW) had been fitted with a device designed to deliberately rig pollutant emissions tests and enable the cars to comply with the legal limits.

After the deception had been discovered, VW admitted that 11 million cars had been sold with the device in question.

As a result, VW is facing an EPA fine, several lawsuits – including one involving the sum of EUR 100 000 million – possible compensation payments to consumers, and the cost of modifying the vehicles concerned by replacing the offending device with proper equipment.

The total costs could put VW's survival in jeopardy.

1. Can VW receive public support without any infringement of European State aid rules? Or, given the astronomical amount of money that VW might need, will the rules have to be altered? Has the Commission been approached by the German Government in that connection?
2. Can the Commission give an assurance that in addition to any public support for VW, the necessary fundamental reforms will be carried out in order to eliminate the flaws in the German industrial model which have brought this situation about?
3. Can it say why the German *Land* of Lower Saxony should continue to hold a golden share in VW?