

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0358/04
by Werner Langen (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: Proceedings concerning the German deposit on drinks cans

In October 2003 the Commission opened infringement proceedings concerning the German deposit on drinks cans. Given that the deadline for the Federal Republic of Germany to issue a response has passed, and that the regulations pose a threat not only to intra-Community trade, but also to production plants in Germany, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. What stage has been reached in the proceedings?
2. What arguments has the Commission put forward against the German regulation?
3. Does the Commission believe it would make sense to immediately suspend the German regulation on deposits on drinks cans?
4. What measures are planned, and when will they be implemented?