

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0844/04
by Ulpu Iivari (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Aid to shipbuilding in breach of EU legislation

In recent months Finnish shipyards have lost out in several competitive bidding procedures to the Italian state-owned company Fincantieri, which has been able to offer customers markedly lower prices than its rivals. According to various avowed expert opinions, Italy is probably paying state aid to shipping companies that have their vessels built and registered in Italy.

Overseeing the internal market is one of the Commission's prime tasks.

What steps will the Commission take to ensure that EU competition legislation is observed in the shipbuilding sector?