

**Question for written answer E-000647/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Michael Theurer (ALDE)**

Subject: EU support programmes for modernising the Polish furniture industry

A fellow citizen expressed concern about support programmes for modernising and increasing the sales of the furniture industry in Poland.

The citizen is referring to a report on a relevant website<sup>1</sup>. The website states that the support programmes are cofinanced from the EU's structural fund. In the article, the criticism is made that Poland in particular is abetting the negative sales trend in Germany with low prices in the lumber industry. According to the article, the cofinancing rates in the programmes are up to 70% and are used in part as financial assistance to companies, but also in the 'Made in Poland' campaign. According to the article, regional manufacturers are at a competitive disadvantage due to the low prices of Polish manufacturers.

1. Which support programmes exist for the lumber industry in Poland?
2. How high is the cofinancing rate?
3. What are the Commission's views on the allegations of distortion of competition?

---

<sup>1</sup> [www.moebelfertigung.com./news/18123](http://www.moebelfertigung.com./news/18123)