FORM FOR TABLING A PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

| ORAL QUESTIONS | WRITTEN QUESTIONS |
|---|---|
| To be put to: COUNCIL COMMISSION | To be put to: PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL COUNCIL COMMISSION VICE-PRESIDENT / HIGH REPRESENTATIVE |
| Question for oral answer with debate (Rule 115) | Question for written answer (Rule 117) |
| AUTHOR(S): Jan Philipp Albrecht, Françoise Castex, Marietje Schaake, Christian Engström, Francisco Sosa Wagner | |
| SUBJECT: (please specify) Software advertising on public | websites |
| TEXT: | |
| Numerous EU public websites refer to proprietary software, like Acrobat Reader, as the only possibility to read PDF files and provide a download link. This is a case of direct advertising by public institutions, which creates a competitive advantage for one company to sell its products. | |
| 1. Currently, on how many of the Commission's own web pages do such advertisements appear? | |
| 2. Could the Commission provide links to these pages, as well as names of EU institutions that have such advertising on their websites? | |
| 3. What are the Commission's reasons (e.g. financial gain, lack of other functional software, etc) for advertising this particular software as the only possibility to read PDF files? | |
| 4. Have the institutions, that have such advertising on their website, explained whether they tried other PDF readers before? Which software did they mention? | |
| 5. What steps is the Commission taking to resolve this problem regarding a) the Commission's own website, and b) the websites of public institutions in Member States? | |
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| Signature(s): Date: 22.11.2011 | |
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