Jaspers Platform
State aid seminar

Miek Van der Wee
European Commission
DG Competition
The less developed Member States grant higher levels of State aid than the richer Member States

True

False
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>10 Richest MS</th>
<th>7 Poorest MS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GDP per capita</strong> (EU27 = 100)</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>State aid</strong> (as % of GDP)</td>
<td>0.64%</td>
<td>0.86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>State aid</strong> (annual, per capita)</td>
<td>€ 212</td>
<td>€ 72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>State aid Volume</strong> (billion € / year)</td>
<td>€ 44 bn</td>
<td>€ 6 bn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Richer MS have deeper pockets and more to spend on SA...

Positive correlation GDP/cap - SA/cap

Pearson Correlation: 0.72
42% of ESI budget → allocated to actions involving SA

Actions involving SA:
- RTD & Entrepreneurship
- Information Society
- Transport
- Energy & Environment
- Training
Relevance of SA policy for ESI Funds

■ EU SA policy:
  ► Essential component of EU cohesion policy
  ► Strict control of MS spending on SA is in the interest of weakest MS who would not be able to match unrestrained spending of richest ME or regions

■ 40% ESI moneys allocated to actions involving SA
  ► MS have discretion on the allocation of EU and MS financial contributions to ESI Funds operations
  ► Hence a need to subject these contributions to SA control
Two way interaction:

- DG REGIO input in elaboration of EU State aid rules
  - Restriction of State aid in the most favoured regions
  - Provisions favouring cohesion
    - more generous provisions for less favoured regions
    - provisions to promote employment of weaker groups
  - Provisions to facilitate the implementation of ESI Fund operation
COMP input in ESI Fund operations → 2 Objectives

- Facilitate implementation of ESI Fund operations (e.g. widening of GBER)

- Ensure SA compliance:
  - Ex Ante Conditionality: "Preventing is better than curing"
    - Expertise on SA rules in MA's
    - Adequate control systems (e.g. cumulation DM)
  - ISC on PA's, OP's and Major Projects
  - Provision of advice on SA aspects of projects
  - Involvement in audits (REGIO, CoA)
For info or further questions on this presentation, or on the activities of the JASPERS Networking Platform please contact:

Massimo Marra  
JASPERS Networking Platform Senior Officer  
ph: +352 4379 85007  
m.marra@eib.org

www.jaspersnetwork.org  
jaspersnetwork@eib.org