Question for written answer E-007357/2014 to the Commission Rule 130 Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Policy coherence for development

Under Article 208 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, policy coherence for development is a legal obligation.

The Commission communication on trade and development of 27 January 2012 points out that EU trade policies have a tangible impact on food security and on the home lives of people in developing countries.

Parliament's resolution of 16 April 2013 on advancing development through trade (P7_TA(2013)0119) states that the link between trade liberalisation and poverty reduction is not automatic because opening up trade can only drive economic and human development if certain conditions, which vary depending on the context, are in place.

How is the Commission going to ensure, in line with the legal imperative laid down in Article 208 TFEU, that the major trade treaties currently under negotiation (such as the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement and the General Agreement on Trade in Services) do not run counter to development policy objectives in developing countries?

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