

**Question for written answer E-009035/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Ramón Jáuregui Atondo (S&D)

Subject: Legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights

In June 2014, the United Nations Human Rights Council adopted a resolution to begin the process of elaborating a legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights. In spite of the fact that the United States, the United Kingdom, France and Japan, among others, voted against the Resolution, the United Nations has committed to forming an intergovernmental working group to determine the binding obligations for transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights.

1. What is the European Commission's opinion regarding this Resolution?
2. In its next action plan on corporate social responsibility (CSR), is the Commission intending to include measures akin to those of the United Nations Resolution?
3. How does the Commission plan to align economic interests and the defence of human rights against a backdrop in which large European companies subcontract supplies from countries with weak legislation with respect to social issues, employment and the environment?