

Question for written answer E-010038/2014
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: European cultural diplomacy

In a May 2001 report on the cultural dimensions of the EU's external actions, the European Parliament stated that it was concerned at the fragmentation of external EU cultural policy and projects, which was hampering the strategic use of cultural resources. In June 2014, a report published by the European Commission on culture in EU external relations recommended, in particular, that specialist 'cultural officer' positions be created within the EU Delegations and that Member States pool their resources, notably via their cultural institutes and attachés abroad.

1. What forms of cultural diplomacy does the Commission intend to propose in order to strengthen the EU's strategic influence around the world and promote mutual understanding in its relationships with non-EU countries?
2. How does it intend to encourage Member States to work together in non-EU countries in order to spread and build on not only the culture and history of each Member State but also the history and shared values of Europe?
3. As part of its cultural diplomacy efforts, will the EU also represent Europe's cultural and creative industries by defending their economic and commercial interests in the international arena?