

**Question for written answer E-003724/2015
to the Council**

Rule 130

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Subject: Network neutrality

On 26 February this year the United States took a giant step in shielding network neutrality when the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) approved a classification of open access to the Internet as a public utility. As a result no Internet company or user will be able to charge or have to pay to receive privileged treatment or to discriminate in content, thus shutting the door on the so-called two-speed Internet.

Europe, however, has still not made up its mind as the Council negotiates on this question. This situation raises doubts about the commitment to guarantee a non-discriminatory Internet. Ensuring network neutrality and an Internet that is free and open is vital for safeguarding freedom of expression on the Internet as well as its proven capacity for enabling entrepreneurs with a talent for innovation to create activity and jobs.

What obstacles are preventing the Council from adopting a decision on network neutrality?

What is the Council's view of the FCC's decision?

Is it considering any proposal to shield network neutrality along the same lines at a European level?