

**Question for written answer E-007574/2015/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ernest Maragall (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Shutdown of Catalan television channels in the Balearic Islands

In a decision it has sought to justify as being on technical grounds, the Spanish Government has shut down two of the Catalan channels produced by Televisión de Catalunya (TVC), which were broadcast in the Balearic Islands under agreements signed by the autonomous regional governments of Catalonia and the Balearic Islands.

The reorganisation of frequencies ordered by Brussels to provide bandwidth for 4G has been used as an excuse to pull the plug on these two channels. Neither the Spanish Government nor the Balearic Islands Regional Government has offered any suggestions as to possible alternatives, thereby reducing public television services broadcast in the Catalan language. This is clearly a political manoeuvre along the lines of previous actions by the Partido Popular Balearic Islands Regional Government, led by Mr Bauzá, which affect the Catalan language and culture.

1. Is the Commission aware of this case?
2. Does the Commission consider that this action threatens the promotion of minority languages in the media?
3. Is this action in line with the Commission's stated objective of access to the digital dividend?