

**Question for written answer E-009573/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Amnesty/Omega report on the trade in tools of torture

Recently, Amnesty International and the Omega Foundation published a report condemning the trade in 'tools of torture' undertaken by companies within the European Union. Specifically, some companies based in the European Union are involved in the sale and marketing of items that can be used to torture or ill-treat people.

While these two organisations recognise the steps already taken by the Commission, they consider that these are not enough to wipe out this trade in 'tools of torture', which, according to Amnesty International and Omega, stems from a 'weakness in the control regime'.

1. Has the Commission read the report by Amnesty International and Omega? If so, what is its opinion on the loopholes pointed out by these two organisations with regard to the Commission's new proposals?
2. In the wake of this report, does the Commission intend to take further action in order to more effectively combat the trade in tools of torture undertaken by European companies?