

**Question for written answer E-010470/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Santiago Fisas Ayxelà (PPE)

Subject: Restrictions on imports of textiles and footwear into Mexico

In February and March 2015, several import restrictive measures targeting textiles and footwear were implemented in Mexico. These measures include the implementation of a 'reference price' (or 'minimum price'), a five-day pre-advice period for shipments, a compulsory requirement to label synthetic and artificial fibres in small letters (which may oblige many importers to adapt all their labels) and the imposition of designated customs terminals (which will limit the locations where apparel products are released).

These measures are expected to lead to additional costs and delays of shipments into Mexico, affecting, among others, numerous EU companies.

Mexico claims that only products not manufactured in the EU are targeted by these measures. However, goods originating from the EU or goods from third countries transiting the EU are impacted in exactly the same way.

These measures are inconsistent with WTO provisions and in breach of Article 19 of the EU-Mexico Global Agreement on customs.

1. How does the Commission intend to tackle these market access barriers to trade?
2. How can the upcoming modernisation of the EU-Mexico Global Agreement be used to remove these barriers?