

**Question for written answer E-011867/2015
to the Council**
Rule 130
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Subject: Internet neutrality

The principle of neutrality means that all data circulating on the Internet must be treated equally. It is technically possible to select data packages and give them priority treatment. This practice may well create political and social problems as well as economic ones. In December 2014, Parliament adopted a legislative resolution enshrining and guaranteeing the principle of net neutrality, even though it is constantly being called into question by major telecommunications operators. The Federal Communications Commission, the US telecommunications regulator, adopted the principle of net neutrality on 26 February 2015.

Recently published information indicates that the Council's position conflicts with these principles. It appears to accept the fact that providers may give priority to certain content, which raises a series of concerns over universal access to the Internet on equal terms and opens the way to a multispeed Internet.

How does the Council assess the above situation, and how will it meet the need to preserve the principle of Internet neutrality as a central pillar of social and economic cohesion in Europe?