

**Question for written answer E-000423/2016  
to the Council**

Rule 130

**Emmanuel Maurel (S&D), David Borrelli (EFDD) and Edouard Martin (S&D)**

Subject: Giving China market economy status under 'certain conditions'

In its work programme, the new Dutch Presidency of the Council stated that one of its priorities was 'to issue a proposal [...] to give China market economy status, possibly subject to certain conditions'.

It is worth noting that, when it joined the WTO in 2001, China was already supposed to fulfil five conditions before possibly being granted market economy status (MES). According to the latest report issued by the Commission (in 2013), China meets only one of the five criteria established by the EU.

In this context, what are the 'conditions' China is supposed to fulfil to be granted MES, according to the Dutch Presidency?

Does the Dutch Presidency intend to stop applying the official criteria usually established by the EU?

If so, is the Dutch Presidency willing to take into account non-legal aspects, such as the economic, social and environmental impact of such a decision?