

**Question for written answer E-001647/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Anneleen Van Bossuyt (ECR)**

Subject: Massive relocation of European businesses to US territory

Every year, many European businesses leave European territory to become established elsewhere, for example in the USA. Many Flemish start-ups are among those opting for the US entrepreneurial climate, where they enjoy numerous advantages with regard to investment and innovation. California is the most popular US State in the eyes of international businesses looking for a new location, and attracts more foreign direct investment than any other State. The more European businesses (particularly start-ups) move to the USA, the greater the damage to our own European economy, because those businesses are creators of growth and jobs.

1. Does the Commission have any specific figures indicating how many businesses each year are relocating from Europe to the USA?
2. Does the Commission have any figures concerning the potential loss of jobs associated with this trend?
3. Is the Commission working on a strategy to create a more business-friendly climate, so that businesses can remain within European territory?