

**Question for written answer E-002391/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Alessia Maria Mosca (S&D)

Subject: IPR protection and public performance rights in EU-Japan FTA

The currently negotiated bilateral trade agreement between the EU and Japan could potentially have an enormous impact on the European economy.

Among other things, these negotiations may represent the perfect opportunity for the EU and Japan to agree on a number of standards, including important guarantees on IPR protection, applicable to some of the most developed economies.

Japan – which is the second biggest music market in the world – still does not recognise the right of musicians and music producers to be paid when their music is publicly performed in various business venues.

Does the Commission intend to secure a commitment by Japan to recognise the public performance right in sound recordings set out in Article 15(1) of the WIPO Phonograms and Performances Treaty (WPPT) and accepted as the international norm by the EU and over 150 countries, including many countries less affluent than Japan?

At a time when many in Europe and internationally question the ability of trade agreements to uphold international standards or create wider societal benefits, including the promotion of culture, can Parliament be confident in the Commission's resolve to secure full public performance protection for recorded music in Japan, the world's second largest music market?