

**Question for written answer E-004191/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Merja Kyllönen (GUE/NGL)**

**Subject:** Reciprocal transmission of public-service broadcasting programmes produced in the EU Member States to the public in other Member States

Knowledge of the cultures of one's own and other countries and peoples is a significant factor in promoting all-round relations, mutual understanding and peaceful co-existence. Particularly in these uncertain times, we need to understand one another, and other EU Member States and their cultures, better, so as to create a stronger basis for the common European identity. Neither the European identity nor trade can be developed unless we know one another's lives, customs and ways of thinking.

Modern communications ensure that Europeans hear, take an interest in and talk about the same principal news topics without any time lag, in real time. On the other hand, there are also national topics which either remain local or gradually develop so as to affect the whole of Europe, both for better and for worse. The handling of these matters and the points of view adopted strongly reflect each country's national or regional culture, knowledge of which makes it possible to understand it and to deal with any differences.

In view of the above, I would ask the Commission whether we could oblige Member States to make it a requirement to make public-service broadcasting programmes (TV) available to the people of all Member States (provided that the copyright in the programmes is owned by public-service broadcasters). What amendments to current EU legislation and to the ways in which public-service broadcasting is organised and funded would be necessary for this?