

Question for written answer E-000342/2017
to the Commission
Rule 130
Renaud Muselier (PPE)

Subject: Parliament's role in Brexit

Following her statements about a hard Brexit, it is clear that the UK Prime Minister is planning to conduct tough negotiations with the EU, in particular by hinting that the UK may leave the single market altogether. These are serious threats, as the single market is what gives the EU its commercial and economic power overseas.

Under the Lisbon Treaty, all decisions relating to the single market are made jointly by the Council and Parliament. Given that the European Parliament has a say in the adoption of any regulation or directive concerning the single market, it would only be normal for Parliament also to be involved in negotiations that could seriously disrupt that market. While we know that the UK exit from the EU will be managed, on the EU side, by the Commission, through Michel Barnier's task force, Parliament's role is not yet clear.

1. Can the Commission explain what influence Parliament will have, in legal and political terms, on the UK exit negotiations?
2. Can it also say exactly what role Guy Verhofstadt, Parliament's official representative in the process, will play in the process and what influence he will have?