Question for written answer E-000556/2017 to the Commission

Rule 130

Inmaculada Rodríguez-Piñero Fernández (S&D), Ramón Jáuregui Atondo (S&D) and Clara Eugenia Aguilera García (S&D)

Subject: Translation of public documents relating to EU trade negotiations with Spanish-speaking

third countries

With its new 'Trade for All' strategy, the Commission aims to make the EU's trade policy more effective at delivering new economic opportunities, addressing not just interests but also values, and more transparent in terms of opening up negotiations to more public scrutiny.

Given that transparency is an important topic in debates on EU trade policy, how does the Commission assess the fact that the texts of its public consultations are currently published only in English (even though replies may be submitted in all the official languages, the notices are not translated), and that public documents relating to negotiations along with much key information on the agreements in force (for example, the evaluation of the application of the agreement with South Korea) are also not translated into the EU's official languages?

More specifically, in relation to the agreements in force and negotiations with Spanish-speaking third countries, and bearing in mind that Spanish is an official language of the EU, is the Commission planning to publish the documents relating to these agreements and negotiations in this common language, in order to guarantee a suitable degree of publicity and foster an informed debate?

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