

**Question for written answer E-000361/2018  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)**

Subject: Revision of the EU-South Korea FTA in the context of the seventh meeting of the EU-South Korea bilateral trade committee

At a time when protectionist slogans are being bandied about increasingly loudly on the international arena, there is a particular need for us to cooperate more closely with partners who pursue policies that are similar to our own, and whose goals are similar to ours. This is particularly the case with regard to South Korea.

The EU-South Korea free trade agreement, which entered into force in July 2011, is seen as an exemplary agreement that ensures a high level of comprehensive market liberalisation and serves as a platform for bilateral trade and investment.

Nothing in life is perfect, of course, so agreements do need to be reviewed and, if necessary, corrected from time to time. The same is true for the EU's agreement with Korea. The key issues raised by both parties include non-tariff barriers, sanitary and phytosanitary barriers, investment protection and the implementation of international conventions on labour rights.

In the context of the latest round of talks involving Commissioner Cecilia Malmström and Korea's trade minister Kim Hyun-chong, were any steps taken with a view to making any changes to the EU-South Korea FTA? If so, what were they?