

**Question for written answer E-000062/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Dominique Martin (ENF)

Subject: International free trade agreements negotiated by the Commission should contain an exception for security products

According to Eric Filiol¹, Director of a cryptology and computer virology laboratory, formerly with France's Directorate-General for External Security (the DGSE), international free trade agreements negotiated by the Commission should contain an exception for security products. Mr Filiol is of the opinion that there is no point talking about European sovereignty or independence unless the security systems and counterterrorism solutions used in Europe are wholly developed in Europe. Furthermore, restricting procurement in this field would create a lot of jobs in Europe in a sector likely to abound in employment opportunities in the future.

Mr Filiol claims that the United States includes similar exceptions in trade agreements linked to the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT).

Has the Commission implemented exception clauses where security software is concerned, as it has done for culture?

¹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fn_dcljvPuY