

Question for written answer E-000679/2019
to the Commission
Rule 130
Mireille D'Ornano (EFDD)

Subject: Protecting economies from foreign investment

On 28 May 2018, MEPs from the Committee on International Trade approved a text aimed at strengthening a Commission proposal to create a European 'framework' for controlling foreign investment – and Chinese investment in particular – in the European Union. Some countries, including France, Germany and Italy, have already expressed concern that foreign groups, and particularly groups of Chinese, acquire the technologies and expertise of European countries unfairly by buying up European businesses. It would also be desirable to be able to block certain operations when countries consider it necessary. Article 63 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union clearly states that 'all restrictions on capital movements ... between Member States and third countries should be removed'.

In the light of the above, does the Commission consider that a revision of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 63 thereof, is necessary should there be a desire to block certain capital movements?