Question for written answer P-008955/2014 to the Commission Rule 130 Francesc Gambús (PPE)

Subject: Media pluralism

On Friday 7 November 2014 the new Commissioner for Climate Change, Miguel Arias Cañete, held his first press conference, to which he barred access by several media organisations including Catalunya Ràdio y Televisió (TV3), whose news programmes are watched by 52.2 % of people in Catalonia, according to latest statistics from the Catalan regional government's Centre for Opinion Studies.

This Member would therefore like to know:

What were the grounds for excluding these media?

Does the Commission feel that this is the best way to reach all European citizens?

How does the Commission equate press freedom and freedom and plurality of information with barring selected media?

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