Question for written answer P-004256/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Sorin Moisă (S&D)

Subject: Commission decision to request Court of Justice opinion on the EU-Singapore free trade

agreement and its implications for the ratification of other trade agreements such as the

EU-Canada Comprehensive Trade and Economic Agreement (CETA)

On 4 March 2015 the College of Commissioners confirmed the decision taken by the previous Commission on 30 October 2014 to request the Court of Justice's opinion regarding the Union's competence to sign and conclude its bilateral trade agreement with Singapore (the EUSFTA).

What is the likely timeline for the Court of Justice to issue its opinion?

Has the Commission considered the delay that the Court's proceeding will cause to the entry into force or the provisional application of the EUSFTA, of which the part on trade in goods and services was concluded back in 2012 and initialled in 2013?

Will this also affect, in terms of timing, the process of ratification (and possible provisional application) of the EU-Canada Comprehensive Trade and Economic Agreement (CETA) and of any other free trade agreements the EU is close to concluding, such as the one with Vietnam? In other words, will the signing of those agreements be proposed, provided the legal scrubbing and translation processes have been completed, only after the Court of Justice has given its decision on the EUSFTA?

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