

**Question for written answer P-001710/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Ratification of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

For the negotiation and conclusion of agreements in the fields of trade in services and the commercial aspects of intellectual property, as well as foreign direct investment, the Council is required to act unanimously where such agreements include provisions for which unanimity is required for the adoption of internal rules.

The Council is also required to act unanimously:

- a. in the field of trade in cultural and audiovisual services, where these agreements risk prejudicing the Union's cultural and linguistic diversity; and
- b. in the field of trade in social, education and health services, where these agreements risk seriously disturbing the national organisation of such services and prejudicing the responsibility of Member States to deliver them.

Will the vote on the ratification of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) in the Council require unanimity, or would a qualified majority be sufficient?

Will a unanimous Council position be required in favour of the mixed nature of the agreement, or would a qualified majority be sufficient?

What legal sources provide the basis for defining which parts of CETA do not fall within the EU's exclusive competence and which parts require unanimity?