

**Question for written answer P-004570/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Tax havens and free trade agreement

At a time when the 'Panama Papers' scandal has broken, involving tax evasion and offshore companies, and while in parallel Members of the European Parliament are voting in favour of measures to combat tax evasion by individuals and businesses in the Member States, the Commission is continuing its negotiations with the United States, some of whose States make a speciality of tax evasion: Delaware, Nevada or South Dakota. Delaware has more companies based in it than it has inhabitants.

It is completely unacceptable for a free trade agreement to be signed with a power whose territory contains tax havens. It is likewise astonishing that these States, and therefore the United States, are not even mentioned in connection with the Union's tax good governance.

This situation is a manifest instance of unfair competition between American and European businesses, but, worse still, it permits money laundering, some of which could finance terrorism within our own territory.

In order to remedy this situation, which is totally contrary to European values, and in order to protect businesses based in the Union and reduce the funding available to terrorists:

1. what conditions will the Commission impose on the USA before TTIP is signed?
2. what other measures will the Commission take?