

Question for written answer P-006428/2016
to the Council
Rule 130
Sorin Moisă (S&D)

Subject: Protocol of Accession of Ecuador to the EU Free Trade Agreement with Colombia and Peru

On 4 April 2016, the Commission submitted a proposal for a Council decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Protocol of Accession to the Trade Agreement between the European Union and its Member States, of the one part, and Colombia and Peru, of the other part, to take account of the Accession of Ecuador (COM(2016)0173). The negotiation of the Protocol of Accession was concluded in July 2014, and the text was approved by the EU-Colombia and Peru Trade Committee on 8 February 2016.

1. What is the anticipated date for the consideration of this proposal by the Council?
2. In establishing this date, has the Council taken into account the fact that the current 'standstill' Regulation (Regulation No 1384/2014) – which establishes preferential duty rates applicable to goods originating in Ecuador – will expire on 31 December 2016?
3. In the Council's view, is it still conceivable that the provisional application of the Protocol of Accession could take place from 1 January 2017?