

**Question for written answer P-008727/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Andi Cristea (S&D)

Subject: European Union's role in supporting Moldova's trade performance and competitiveness

The implementation of the DCFTA and its related reforms was expected to help Moldova's macroeconomic imbalances by enhancing its competitiveness.

More than two years have passed since the DCFTA's entry into force.

According to the latest Competitiveness Report by the World Economic Forum, Moldova is ranked 100th out of 138 countries. It has dropped 16 places since 2015 and 18 since 2014.

According to the World Bank's indicator, Moldova ranks 52nd in the Doing Business report 2016, and this means it has dropped three places compared to 2015.

In terms of trade, exports to the EU have grown by only 5 % while exports to other countries have declined by 16 % and exports to the CIS have declined by 45 %.

Trade, and the economic impact thereof, is an element of vital importance for the Republic of Moldova as it can influence the political process, affect the success of the Association Agreement and even jeopardise relations with the EU as a whole, considering the regional context and the existing Russian-imposed restrictions against the country.

In view of this state of affairs, is the EU really doing enough to enhance Moldova's trade potential? Is the EU providing enough support for Moldova's DCFTA implementation and competitiveness?