

**Question for written answer P-009147/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Carolina Punset (ALDE)

Subject: About free movement of data in de European Union

The free movement of data is the foundation of the Digital Single Market, just as the free movement of people and goods are the foundations of the EU Single Market. However, existing data localisation requirements in national public procurement rules and legislation prevent the development of companies across Member State borders, with no justification.

In its Communication of 6 May 2015 entitled 'A Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe', the Commission recognised that 'unnecessary restrictions regarding the location of data within the EU should both be removed and prevented', and announced that it would propose a European 'Free flow of data' initiative that 'tackles restrictions on the free movement of data for reasons other than the protection of personal data within the EU and unjustified restrictions on the location of data for storage or processing purposes'.

In its resolution of 19 January 2016 on 'Towards a Digital Single Market Act', Parliament welcomed this initiative and asked that the 'free flow of data' initiative take into account 'concerns about the impact of data localisation requirements on the functioning of the single market'.

Will the Commission put forward an ambitious legislative proposal to remove and prevent data localisation requirements in the EU?