

**Question for written answer P-005899/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Franck Proust (PPE)

Subject: Reciprocity in trade relations between the EU and third countries

Fair competition and the free movement of capital are fundamental rules that govern the economic functioning of the European single market. While resolutely open and wishing to export more with the aim of creating value and jobs, the EU and its economic operators are often faced with serious obstacles to achieving sustainable growth in foreign markets.

The State of the Union speech by the President of the Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, delivered on 13 September at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, will constitute a landmark in the necessary quest to put an end to the taboo of reciprocity in trade relations with our foreign partners. Our objective must be to say yes to globalisation, but only on condition that the European and foreign operators play by the same set of rules. While the principle of reciprocity is accepted in multilateral trade, as indicated in the Plurilateral Agreement on Government Procurement reached under the auspices of the World Trade Organisation (WTO):

1. How does the Commission define 'reciprocity' in trade relations with third countries?
2. Does the Commission consider this reciprocity to be incompatible with the Union's commitments within the World Trade Organisation?