

**Question for written answer E-6117/2010
to the Commission
Rule 117
Christophe Béchu (PPE)**

Subject: Diplomatic and strategic impact of the Galileo European Satellite Navigation System

Galileo, the European global satellite positioning system project, has been undergoing testing since the end of 2005 following the launch of the Giove-A and Giove-B satellites in December 2005 and April 2008 respectively. The first four satellites of the constellation will be tested starting in 2011, and the system will be operational in 2014.

Galileo will be 'commonly used in maritime, air and land transport, rescue and salvage operations, public works, oil exploration, agriculture or simply in connection with cars and mobile phones in everyday life'.

At the diplomatic level, can the Commission establish what the impact of the programme on the EU's role in the world – particularly in terms of security and defence – will be?