Question for written answer E-000401/2011 to the Commission Rule 117 Carl Haglund (ALDE) and Herbert Dorfmann (PPE)

Subject: Removing internet trade barriers between EU countries

An EU citizen living, for example, in the Åland Islands (Finland) who would like to order IKEA wardrobes and furniture for his household using IKEA's web-based services in Sweden will not be able to buy the furniture on the web, because he does not possess a Swedish personal number (but a Finnish one). If the same citizen tried to buy a film on SF Anytime instead, he would be stopped by a message saying that it is not possible to purchase the films outside of Sweden, since he does not possess a Swedish IP address.

I personally feel it is a bit of an anachronism that the possibility of buying furniture or films on the digital internal market is restricted by factors such as one's nationality or IP address. Since the development of a digital internal market that facilitates cross-border trade is a vital component in the future economic growth of peripheral border regions such as Åland, I would like to ask the following question:

Does the Commission intend to present new integration-oriented legislation that would remove trade barriers such as the abovementioned, and strengthen the integration of the single market?

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