

**Question for written answer E-007372/2011
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Helga Trüpel (Verts/ALE)

Subject: EU strategy for audiovisual and cultural cooperation with third countries in general and particularly in the new EU-Canada free trade agreement

1. How will the Commission ensure for certain that sensitive areas such as culture and education will remain properly excluded from the scope of the above investment agreement in particular and future investment agreements in general?
2. When can the Commission provide Parliament and the Council with a detailed overview of which Member States, under the WTO/GATS system, have undertaken liberalisation commitments towards which cultural services since 1994/95, in particular publicly-sponsored cultural services (please submit, if available now)?
3. In the light of the above, which cultural services should now be included in the negative list (Appendix I to the EU-Canada agreement)? When can the Commission provide Parliament and the Council with a detailed overview – even at the draft stage – of which areas of cultural services should be included in the 'negative list', with particular regard to publicly-sponsored cultural services (please submit, if available now)?
4. With regard to which future regulations at national, regional and particularly local level – the latter bearing a certain responsibility in many Member States for public cultural infrastructure – could and should, in addition, restrictive regulations be maintained, without the need to compile a list (as in Appendix II to the Agreement)?
5. In connection with which cultural services are the EU and Member States pursuing offensive liberalisation interests? When will the Commission inform Parliament and the Council of these?
6. There are clearly differences of opinion between the EU and Canada over certain cultural services and their classification. What is the background to this? How does the Commission intend to solve this problem?