

**Question for written answer E-007162/2012
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Protecting the diversity of cultural expressions in the EU-Canada Free Trade Agreement

The EU Commissioner for Trade has expressed the hope that the negotiations on the EU-Canada Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement will be concluded by the end of the year.

1. At this advanced stage in the negotiations, could the Commission indicate whether or not the future agreement will cover cultural goods and services?
2. If so, what steps have the Commission and Canada taken to ensure that the commitments they made when they ratified (the EU) and accepted (Canada) the 2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions are being fulfilled? What steps have been taken in this regard?
3. More generally, does the Commission still intend to adopt a strategy paper on its approach to negotiations on protocols to cultural cooperation agreements? If so, when will it be in a position to present the paper? Has it considered the possibility of organising a public consultation to inform the drafting of the paper?