

**Question for written answer E-000125/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: EU-Canada free trade agreement and the rights of indigenous peoples

On 18 October 2013, the European Union and Canada reached a political agreement on a comprehensive economic and trade agreement (CETA). Specific areas of the agreement are still being negotiated, and Parliament has not yet given its approval. Given that respect for human rights is a fundamental European Union principle, that the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (61/295) has been accepted by the EU Member States and by Canada, that the human rights of people of indigenous origin are repeatedly being violated by Canadian companies in countries such as Mexico or Guatemala, and that the EU is Canada's second most important trading partner, the following questions arise:

1. In the course of the negotiations with Canada on a free trade agreement, did the Commission raise the issue of the rights of indigenous peoples and the violation of these rights by Canadian companies, and, if so, with what outcome?
2. Does the Commission plan to set out the rights of indigenous peoples in the free trade agreement or to include a reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples?
3. Does the Commission see any scope for making this and/or any other trade partnership contingent on respect for human rights in general, and what specific measures is the Commission proposing in this regard?