

Question for written answer E-015027/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Michał Boni (PPE)

Subject: 5G Infrastructure Public Private Partnership (5G PPP)

The 5G Infrastructure Public Private Partnership created by the Commission and manufacturers, operators, SMEs and researchers is a great initiative aimed at delivering solutions and standards for the ubiquitous next-generation communication infrastructures of the coming decade. This forms a good basis for Europe to regain its lead in new communication systems; it is an important vehicle for staying ahead of global competition and for the preparation of future standards.

Europe needs an ambitious pan-European target that is able to galvanise Europe's telecoms industry for timely deployment of 5G. Europe's ambition should be to lead and not to follow on the road to 5G. Europe should not be late in 5G commercial deployments. 5G will emerge as early as in 2018 (first pre-standardised network trials with pre-commercial hardware) and later in 2020 (first networks with commercial hardware).

1. Does the Commission plan to propose a clear timeline for the European road to 5G with a view to galvanising Europe's telecoms industry? Will it set an ambitious and firm target for 5G rollout, in a similar manner to Korea and Japan, which have announced that they will launch 5G in the next few years?
2. How does the Commission plan to leverage the 5G PPP initiative to push for 5G as a main driver and prerequisite for the Digital Single Market in Europe and its flagship initiative?