

**Question for written answer E-000346/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Aurelia Beigneux (ID)**

Subject: The need to develop a sovereign and independent internet given the GAFAM monopoly

By censoring the US President, the GAFAM have been guilty of meddling in the internal politics of a sovereign state. Thousands of accounts have subsequently been purged by Twitter all over the globe: silencing media outlets, bloggers, and national politicians for the crime of having an opinion.

The Russian Government has recently taken steps to block access to any social network that censors an official Russian media outlet or organisation, with a view to safeguarding its sovereignty, its people's right of free expression and, consequently, democracy.

The Commission, meanwhile, has decided to centralise its data on a single system hosted by Amazon Web Services so as to update its cloud services.

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1. Does the Commission intend to retaliate against a private company guilty of censorship against a Member State, a media outlet or a group of citizens because of their opinions or beliefs?
2. Does the Commission intend to equip itself with a tool to access an independent and sovereign Internet, thus putting an end to its dependence on non-European companies?