Question for written answer E-001155/2021/rev.1 to the Commission Rule 138
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Subject: US extraterritorial jurisdiction

On 2 October 2020, Commissioner Dombrovskis announced a proposal for a new mechanism to protect the EU from the coercive manoeuvres of the US and China.

In response to the unilateral extraterritorial application of US law to European companies, which is contrary to international law, the Commission has now introduced the INSTEX blocking mechanism, which isolates financial transactions from any link with the US, thus protecting European companies from US sanctions. Unfortunately, however, scarcely any use has been made of this mechanism to date. While it is, in theory, not admissible under EU law for companies to be guided by US extraterritorial legal dictates, in practice this has little meaning for companies in fear of losing their US market share.

- Have any further complaints been lodged with the WTO by the Commission (or any of his predecessors with responsibility in this area since 1996)?
- 2. Given that the Commission is now talking about a community of values encompassing the US and the Union that can conquer all, can the Commission say whether US extraterritorial jurisdiction will be on the agenda of the next meeting with the US government representative?
- 3. What measures are being envisaged by the Commission to shield EU companies from the consequences of the trade war being waged against the EU by its main partner in 'this community of values'?