Question for written answer E-005596/2021 to the Commission Rule 138 Lars Patrick Berg (ECR)

Subject: Extraterritorial activities by the United States

Since the 1970s, the extraterritorial reach of US law has increased dramatically. In the pursuit of US foreign policy, national security and economic objectives, policymakers in the US have asserted authority far beyond the country's borders.

Legitimate European business activities with Iran, including humanitarian activities, and with Cuba and with Russia were recently disrupted by sanctions that were described in the November 2020 report prepared for the Parliament's Committee on International Trade as 'unilateralist and confrontational'.

Over the last twenty years, European corporations have been the subject of particular attention by US prosecutorial agencies under the 1977 US Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. Billions of euro in fines and penalties have been levied against European companies that are headquartered in the EU.

These actions undermine European sovereignty. This is not the behaviour one expects from a trusted ally.

Can the Commission clarify whether the proposed regulation on the protection of the Union and its Member States from economic coercion by third countries will be applied:

- 1. to the type of US sanctions mentioned above;
- 2. to the continuing extraterritorial application of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act by the US authorities?