

**Question for written answer E-003781/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Miroslav Číž (S&D)

Subject: UNCTAD Digital Economy Report 2021

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) released its Digital Economy 2021 report in September of that year, in which it argues that the world needs a new global approach to governance that allows digital data to flow across borders as freely as necessary and possible. UNCTAD argues that a new approach is needed so that countries can better use data as a global public good. The new approach should help maximise development benefits, ensure their equitable distribution and minimise risks and harm. The report also argues that a new global system should help prevent further fragmentation of the internet, address policy challenges arising from the dominance of digital platforms and reduce existing inequalities.

1. What is the Commission's assessment of the findings and recommendations contained in the above-mentioned UNCTAD Digital Economy Report?
2. Is the Commission prepared to cooperate with UNCTAD and partner countries in the UN in this regard?
3. Does the Commission support the creation of a new UN coordinating body to focus on the assessment and development of comprehensive global governance of digital technologies and data, as proposed by UNCTAD?

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