

**Question for oral answer O-000088/2011/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 115

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Subject: EU-Japan trade relations

EU exports to Japan, in relation to GDP, are considerably below those to the EU's other main markets, such as the US, China, Korea or India. There is significant untapped potential in trade relations between these two economies that could benefit both parties, which together account for 35% of global GDP.

1. At the EU-Japan Summit in 2009 the leaders expressed their intention to strengthen the integration of their economies in order fully to capitalise on their economic relationship. What has the Commission done to enhance the economic and commercial relationship since the 2009 summit?
2. What has the Commission done to alleviate non-tariff measures having an impact on trade and investment, in particular by promoting transparent regulatory policy and by using existing bilateral dialogues? What view does it take of the efforts made by Japan in this regard?
3. What progress has been achieved in respect of geographical indications, and what has been done to facilitate enhanced access to the respective government procurement markets?
4. What are the Commission's conclusions regarding the consultations on EU-Japan trade relations which were launched in autumn 2010?
5. When does the Commission intend to publish the comprehensive sustainability and impact assessment on EU-Japan trade relations? Will it provide a thorough assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of a possible future EU-Japan FTA, in particular for all industrial sectors such as the automotive, electronics, aviation and machinery sectors?
6. What prerequisites does the Commission consider should be fulfilled before the scope of these trade talks is defined? Would the negotiations cover an investment agreement?

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