

**Question for written answer P-003357/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Agnes Jongerius (S&D)

Subject: Discrepancy of information on the provisional application of CETA between the Commissioner and the President of the Council

During the Structural Dialogue consultation of 21 April 2016, Commissioner Malmström reassured the members of the INTA Committee that the provisional application of CETA (Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement) would be postponed until Parliament had ratified the treaty.

The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs has provided the Dutch Parliament with information on behalf of the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Lilianne Ploumen, on the procedure that will be followed with the ratification of CETA.

In this letter, Minister Ploumen informs the Dutch parliament that the provisional application of CETA will come into force after the Council signs the agreement, notwithstanding the vote on ratification of this agreement in the European Parliament.

Could the Commissioner clarify where this possible discrepancy comes from and what the value is of her promise that there will be no provisional application of CETA until Parliament has voted on the agreement?

Will the decision on the provisional application of CETA be for the Council to make, and how will this decision be made? By unanimity or qualified majority voting?