

**Question for written answer E-015224/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Pascal Arimont (PPE)**

Subject: Transparency in the context of TTIP

According to a report in the British daily newspaper *The Guardian*, the Commission has granted the US oil concern ExxonMobil access to confidential negotiating strategies, has asked the European refinery association FuelsEurope for 'concrete input' on the energy chapter of the TTIP agreement and has arranged meetings between the employers' association BusinessEurope and US negotiators from the State and Energy Departments.

Most MEPs have been granted only a very limited insight into a few carefully selected TTIP documents, which raises the legitimate question of whether the Commission is applying double standards when it comes to transparency. The case in point would seem to highlight once again the way in which certain lobby groups are being given preferential treatment.

Can the Commission confirm the information revealed by *The Guardian*?

If so, how does it justify its actions?

What is its response to the allegation, which the article would seem to support, that the elected representatives of the supposed beneficiaries of the TTIP agreement are effectively being denied the right to deliver an informed opinion on the substance of the agreement itself?