Question for written answer E-014743/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Marielle de Sarnez (ALDE)

Subject: The Commission's 2016 Work Programme and the EU-Tunisia free trade agreement

On 27 October the Commission presented its Work Programme for 2016. In the part relating to international trade, after mentioning the importance of pursuing negotiations with the United States, the Commission lists the geographical areas with which it wishes to strengthen cooperation: the Asia-Pacific region, Canada, Africa, the Caribbean, the Pacific region, the European Union's Eastern Neighbourhood, Turkey, Mexico and Chile.

Despite the fact that on 13 October the Commission began negotiations with Tunisia for a full and comprehensive free trade agreement, no mention is made of the Mediterranean Neighbourhood in the Work Programme.

Can the Commission say whether the negotiations for the EU-Tunisia trade agreement will form part of its priorities for 2016? Can it adjust its Work Programme for 2016 accordingly?

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