

**Question for written answer E-014984/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Bronis Ropé (Verts/ALE)**

Subject: External trade negotiations conducted in secret by some Member States

In its response of 10 July 2015 to my parliamentary question No E-004766-15 of 25 March 2015 regarding external trade negotiations conducted in secret by some Member States, the Commission stated that it had 'requested information from Member States on any possible bilateral arrangements with Russia in this area'.

More than six months have passed since the aforementioned letter was received, yet I have still not obtained any new information on this matter. In this connection, could the Commission please provide information on the results of the investigation to which it referred regarding whether some Member States have been conducting external trade negotiations in secret with a view to circumventing the sanctions imposed by the EU on Russia in view of its aggression in Ukraine, as well as the trade sanctions imposed by Russia on all EU Member States?

If it has already been established, could the Commission please provide me with a list of those Member States which the Commission believes could be conducting secret negotiations with Russia on external trade matters and on circumventing the aforementioned sanctions? Could the Commission also provide me with the information in its possession on when it believes such negotiations have taken place?