

**Question for written answer E-004353/2019
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: European sovereignty in telecommunications

The fifth generation (5G) network forms part of the digital revolution in which the Union must play a leading role. The 'Internet of Things', an inevitable trend in the technological development of connected devices, presupposes the collection and analysis of highly sensitive personal and public interest data. We must seek to be in the vanguard of this industry so as to promote business competitiveness and improve the quality of life of citizens.

Increased connectivity is accompanied by new and complex threats in the digital world. In order to secure the cybersecurity of infrastructures, the protection of citizens' digital rights and the inviolability of essential state systems, high standards of protection are needed.

Huawei, which has an undeniable strategic alignment with the People's Republic of China, has achieved a very significant penetration of the European market and is a market leader in the development of 5G. Several countries have already imposed embargo measures on Chinese companies (in particular Huawei).

In the current international political climate, Europe, for sovereignty and defence reasons, cannot risk compromising access to its telecommunications infrastructure.

In view of the above, will the Commission say whether it intends to take any measures to curb the penetration of companies that pose geopolitical risks to Europe's telecommunications market?

Supporter¹

¹ This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Cláudia Monteiro de Aguiar (PPE)