

**Question for written answer E-009182/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Internationalisation of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

In the coming years, an estimated 90 % of global growth will originate outside the EU. Developing and emerging markets are expected to account for 60 % of world GDP by 2030. Given increased market integration, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) can play an important role in global value chains.

However, few small businesses in Europe - only 13 % - export beyond the EU. By comparison, 25 % of SMEs are active in the internal market.

Increasing the internationalisation of small businesses and helping them access third markets is crucial for Europe's competitiveness, economic growth and innovation.

In light of the above:

Does the Commission intend to present a comprehensive strategy on internationalisation of SMEs?

Will it develop a pilot scheme for SMEs for training and coaching on internationalisation, through a COSME call?

Does it plan to organise a dedicated conference on internationalisation of SMEs, also with a view to making information on the matter more accessible to European regions?