

Question for written answer E-004774/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Axel Voss (PPE)

Subject: Signature and accession of the EU to the Singapore Convention on Mediation

The Singapore Convention on Mediation, adopted by the UN General Assembly and opened for signature on 7 August 2019, establishes an international framework for recognising and enforcing mediated settlement agreements in cross-border commercial disputes. Although major states such as the United States and China, as well as neighbouring countries, signed the Convention immediately, neither the EU nor its Member States have done so.

The Convention was drafted within the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law's Working Group II, in which the EU and its Member States actively participated. European delegations, including The Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers, made significant contributions to the Convention's normative content.

Despite this involvement, no formal initiative has been taken by the EU to sign the Convention or to launch the political and legal assessment required for such a decision. This is notable in the light of the Commission's repeated expressions of support for mediation and the need for greater legal certainty in the international enforcement of mediated agreements.

The Commission is asked to clarify:

1. why no formal steps have been taken towards signing the Convention or towards the technical evaluation required for such a decision;
2. what obstacles have been identified that are preventing or delaying the signature;
3. what concrete next steps are planned towards EU signature and accession.

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