

**Question for written answer E-005949/2012  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Richard Howitt (S&D)**

Subject: EU backing for complementarity between the International Criminal Court (ICC) and national judicial systems

In its 2011 report on EU efforts to support the ICC (2011/2109(INI)<sup>1</sup>) and its 2012 report on the Annual Report on Human Rights in the World and the European Union's policy on the matter (2011/2185(INI)<sup>2</sup>), Parliament stressed the importance of enhancing the capacity and willingness of national judicial systems to investigate and prosecute war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide in accordance with the principle of complementarity enshrined in the ICC treaty. Parliament specifically recognised the efforts of the Commission to develop a toolkit on complementarity.

Could the Commission give an update on progress on the development of the EU toolkit on complementarity between the ICC and national judicial systems, as raised at the 2010 Kampala Review Conference, which I attended? Will this toolkit be a joint initiative of the Commission and the EEAS? What is the timeline for its completion and publication? Are consultations foreseen with relevant stakeholders (including EU Member States, the European Parliament and civil society)?

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?lang=en&reference=2011/2109\(INI\)](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?lang=en&reference=2011/2109(INI))

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?lang=en&reference=2011/2185\(INI\)](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?lang=en&reference=2011/2185(INI))