

**Question for written answer E-005660/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Philippe Juvin (PPE)

Subject: Escalating crisis in South Sudan and the situation of children

Since December 2013, South Sudan has been in the throes of a bloody civil war between ethnic groups. After months of talks, the South-Sudanese president and his rival have agreed to put an end to hostilities, to hold elections and to form a transitional government. However, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is not convinced that the two sides have any real desire to find a political solution to the conflict.

On 27 May 2014, the Security Council adopted Resolution 2155, which makes protecting civilians the new priority of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan. In the context of the civil war, children are particularly vulnerable: 500 000 have been displaced, 50 000 face imminent death, starvation or disease, and 9 000 have been recruited as child soldiers.

1. How is the EU supporting the IGAD-led mediation process via the instrument for stability?
2. What specific action is the EU taking to help protect children?
3. Does the EU, through its Special Representative for the Horn of Africa, Alexander Rondos, intend to call on South Sudan to implement the action plan it signed with the UN in March 2012 and put a stop to the use of child soldiers?