

**Question for written answer E-008565/2014/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Josef Weidenholzer (S&D)

Subject: Custody disputes involving couples of different nationalities or living in different countries of the European Union

Custody disputes involving couples of different nationalities or living in different countries of the European Union have a major impact on the children's welfare. 'Forum shopping' threatens the livelihoods of single parents if they move legally with their child to another EU country at the end of an employment contract.

1. What is the Commission doing to help clarify under what circumstances single 'EU related workers' may leave an EU country with their children at the end of a contract, and from what date penalties in international guardianship cases become due?
2. How does the Commission ensure, in international custody cases, that Article 10 of Regulation 2201/2203/EC is complied with, so as to prevent parents or guardians from 'forum shopping' with applications under the Hague Convention, and that such cases do not lead to ruinous court cases lasting for years?
3. How can the Commission guarantee that the judgments of the Court of Justice protect the best interests of the child, and not those of Regulation 2201/2203/EC, and what does it propose to do to ensure that violence in child-rearing is expressly prohibited by law in all the countries of the Union?