

**Question for written answer E-009005/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Sorin Moisă (S&D)

Subject: Alleged abuse of large numbers of Romanian women in Sicily

1. Is the Commission aware of Italian press reports (links below)¹ concerning the alleged abuse of thousands of Romanian women in the Ragusa region of Sicily and violation of their rights on a massive scale?
2. In view of the social and legal complexity of the situation, can the Commission say whether the European Union has the necessary instruments to protect European citizens from systematic discrimination and abuse if the local or central authorities of the Member State in which the alleged human rights violations are occurring are unable to take effective action? What are these instruments? Can the Commission investigate this particular situation and is there anything it can do to help remedy matters?
3. If so, what action can it take?

¹ http://www.corriere.it/english/14_ottobre_23/romanian-slave-workers-forced-to-abort-c0e2eb54-5aa4-11e4-a20c-1c0cce31a000.shtml
<http://espresso.repubblica.it/inchieste/2014/09/15/news/violentate-nel-silenzio-dei-campi-a-ragusa-il-nuovo-orrore-delle-schiave-rumene-1.180119>
<http://27esimaora.corriere.it/articolo/i-festini-agricoli-e-gli-abortidelle-mille-schiave-romene/>
<http://www.la7.it/laria-che-tira/video/5000-schiave-nei-campi-siciliani-28-10-2014-139546>
<http://www.la7.it/piazzapulita/video/i-nuovi-schiavi-27-10-2014-139473>