

**Question for written answer E-009064/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Lorenzo Fontana (NI)**

Subject: Isis and torture of children

The European Union claims that it is committed to fighting for human dignity on a daily basis.

Yet something disturbing and unthinkable is currently happening not too far from our own borders.

Human rights groups have interviewed four boys who, along with more than 100 other children, have been held prisoner by Isis for four months. These youngsters, aged between 14 and 16, were among the 153 Kurdish boys abducted by Isis on 29 May 2014 as they returned to the Syrian border town of Kobane after sitting school exams in Aleppo.

After being released by their captors, the boys sought refuge in Turkey, where they were asked about their experiences at the hands of the militants. They described being beaten with hoses and electric cables, and being forced to watch videos of beheadings and other violent attacks.

All of the youngsters were made to pray five times a day and were subjected to a religious indoctrination programme, with their captors inflicting cruel punishments on those who failed to conform. These atrocities must be stopped, and given that they target the most vulnerable members of society, we must act quickly to ensure that barbarities of this nature do not continue.

In light of this, has the Commission planned, or does it intend to plan, any interventions specifically aimed at protecting the dignity and the health of children in border regions? If so, when does it intend to implement these measures?