

**Question for written answer E-010186/2014**  
**to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Siôn Simon (S&D)**

Subject: VP/HR - Women and peacebuilding in Afghanistan

According to a report released by Oxfam and published in the *New York Times* on 24 November 2014, Afghan women have been systematically excluded from government efforts to start peace talks with the Taliban, and there is a danger of setbacks to women's rights during the peace negotiations. The membership of the Afghan High Peace Council comprises 61 men but only nine women; they are outnumbered by former Taliban members, who often oppose women's participation. Of the 11 instances of direct or indirect peace talks held between the international community and the Taliban or other insurgents since 2005, none included confirmed participation by women. Of the 16 peace efforts initiated by the Afghan Government, only three involved female delegates, who accounted for only 10 % of all the government representatives taking part.

What steps is the EU taking to reinforce women's participation in the peace process in Afghanistan?

Is the strengthening of women's position in decision-making institutions in Afghanistan part of the EU's agenda for the region?

What percentage of EU funds for Afghanistan are dedicated to the empowerment of women in the country, and what impact analysis is currently being undertaken to evaluate the actual results of the policies adopted in the region?