

**Question for written answer E-002754/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Change in fundamental rights in the EU

In an article entitled 'EU: Lackluster Commitment to Rights Protection', Human Rights Watch concludes: 'Concerted Action Needed to Restore Credibility'.

The European Union is a unique political and cultural area in which human rights in general are protected absolutely. The values on which European integration are based require constant vigilance by the European institutions and the Member States. This task cannot be treated as if it were of secondary importance! And it is clear that the record is a poor one, as the rise of intolerance, discrimination and extremism across the old continent shows.

1. The fight against intolerance, discrimination and extremism in whatever form must be accorded absolute priority, on a par with the fight against the economic crisis and terrorism. It is illusory to believe that a solution can be found to any one of these three major challenges in isolation; instead they must be tackled simultaneously and with equal determination. Does the Commission share that view?
2. More specifically, how will the Commission restore the primacy of the values that have fostered European integration and the establishment of a lasting peace in Europe?