

**Question for written answer E-003609/2015
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**
Rule 130
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică (S&D)

Subject: VP/HR - Child marriages in Malawi

Malawi's parliament recently took an important step towards preventing child marriages by passing the long-awaited and much-needed Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Bill (the 'Marriage Bill'), which sets 18 as the minimum marriage age. The bill will become law as soon as the President signs it, but the law will not make a real difference unless Malawi's Constitution is also changed. According to a Human Right Watch Dispatch, when asked on how they apply the various marriage laws in Malawi, most magistrates said that they apply the constitutional provisions.

Has the VP/HR approached the Malawi's Government with initiatives to stop human rights violations associated with child marriage?