

**Question for written answer E-005689/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Jean Lambert (Verts/ALE)

Subject: The multiple ways in which a parent's imprisonment adversely impacts the rights of children and the EU's commitment to ensuring that these rights are respected

An estimated 800 000 children in the EU have a parent in prison on any given day each year. The detention of the parent infringes on the rights of the child in multiple ways. These include the right to family contact, the right to healthy development and the right to be raised by the parent.

National criminal justice policies and legislation in EU Member States do not generally incorporate a child-rights perspective when a parent is imprisoned; most government policies for children do not address the rights of children affected by parental incarceration.

How does the Commission intend to follow up on paragraph 13 of the European Parliament resolution of 27 November 2014 on the 25th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child¹ and launch initiatives to assess the impact of detention policies and criminal justice systems on children?

How does the Commission intend to consider the rights of the child to family contact and healthy development in determining eligibility of a prisoner-parent for transfer to another Member State for purposes of social rehabilitation, as per Council Framework Decision 2008/909/JHA²?

¹ European Parliament resolution on the 25th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, P8_TA(2014)0070.

² Specifically, Article 4 on criteria for forwarding a judgment and certificate to another Member State – references to where a person 'lives' incorporating elements of family ties.