

**Question for written answer E-007969/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
José Blanco López (S&D)

Subject: Measures to combat homophobia in the EU

In connection with the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia held on 17 May, it should be noted that 25 years after its removal from the World Health Organisation's International Classification of Diseases, homosexuality is still persecuted in 78 countries and in many of them it carries the death penalty.

Indeed, we need look no further than the EU, where transsexuals are still one of the groups of population at the greatest risk of exclusion; and in Spain there is an increasing number of what are called hate crimes, 40 % of the victims of which, according to the Ministry of the Interior, are lesbians, gays, transsexuals and bisexuals.

Means and measures are required to put an end to these crimes and to attend to and accompany the victims appropriately, and greater efforts must be made to decriminalise homosexuality and transsexuality worldwide.

What measures is the Commission promoting to combat homophobia, transphobia and biphobia both within and outside the EU, and to contribute to the prevention and eradication of bullying in this context?

How is it promoting equal treatment and non-discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity?

Is the Commission promoting services to provide care and support for the LGBTBI population and the victims of discrimination?