Question for written answer E-008036/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Homophobia in sport

A survey was recently carried out into the physical and verbal abuse suffered by homosexual sportsmen and sportswomen. Many of those who were surveyed claimed to have been the victims of verbal threats which had sometimes led to physical assaults.

The survey also suggested that homophobia in sport has a direct impact on sporting performance. Most interviewees said that they did not dare to reveal their sexual orientation for fear of verbal or physical abuse.

Article 21 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights prohibits any form of discrimination, including homophobia.

What action does the Commission intend to take to raise awareness of this problem among the wider sporting community?