

**Question for written answer E-009480/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Aldo Patriciello (PPE)**

Subject: Missing children

In light of:

- the Council Resolution on the contribution of civil society in finding missing or sexually exploited children (2001/C 283/01);
- the UN Convention of 1989 on the Rights of the Child;
- the reports by the International Center for Missing and Exploited Children;

and considering:

- that initiatives such as the establishment of the 116 000 hotline to report missing children and offer guidance and support to their families are welcomed;
  - that 270 000 children go missing in Europe every year, equivalent to one every two minutes;
  - that in 2014 alone, in Europe, the 116 000 hotline handled 6 119 cases of missing children, and there were many different reasons for these disappearances,
- does the Commission intend to create a European authority to coordinate reports issued by the national authorities of the Member States?
- will it call on those Member States who do not yet have an official body to deal with such matters to establish one as soon as possible?
- in order that this European authority can be as effective as possible, will the Commission ensure that it also has the power to operate outside of Europe?