

**Question for written answer E-000059/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)**

Subject: Difficulties and barriers concerning assisted fertilisation in the EU

In several Member States, women choosing to undergo assisted fertilisation are faced with various obstacles, while a lack of egg donors obliges the same countries to import them from abroad. In Italy, for instance, there were cases of women being fined up to EUR 600 000 until the ban on such practices was lifted last year.

This situation has meant that Spain alone provides 40% of egg donations in Europe, according to the Spanish Fertility Society. Spain, like other Member States, fails to provide the information requested by the European authorities and keeps no record of gamete donors. Nor is there a single European register of donors, as EU law requires.

Given these facts and the applicable EU law – Directives 2004/23/EC and 2006/17/EC – which aims to ensure security, transparency and accountability in the distribution of human tissues and cells:

1. Does the Commission consider it necessary for Member States to take steps to encourage the donation of and research using human cells and tissue?
2. What measures will it take to make up for the current lack of transparency and information concerning donations of eggs?
3. Does it believe the establishment and operation of a single European register of donors to be a matter of urgency?