

**Question for written answer E-000614/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Lola Sánchez Caldentey (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Report by Amnesty International and Afterwatch on child labour

On 19 January 2016 a report by Amnesty International and Afterwatch was released, claiming that Apple, Sony and Samsung probably use spare parts which come from the exploitation of child labour. According to the data set out in the report, most of the cobalt required for the manufacture of electronic devices is mined in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), where thousands of children are forced to work in mines 12 hours a day.

1. What is the Commission's view of this damning report by Amnesty International and how has it expressed that view?
2. In the light of the report, does the Commission not agree that the instruments it is currently using might be insufficient or inadequate to achieve the aim of eradicating child labour?
3. In view of Parliament's vote in favour of the compulsory traceability of materials throughout the supply chain, will provision be made for penalties in respect of companies that engage in such practices?