

**Question for written answer E-000632/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Inês Cristina Zuber (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Lack of an EU strategy for women's rights and gender equality after 2015

In the past, the Commission has at least formally invoked equality as one of its founding values to present strategies for equality between women and men. In practice, we know that many of the social and economic policies that the European Union has imposed on its Member States have led to the negation of principles of equality. Women's rights and gender equality have suffered a range of setbacks as a result of the austerity policies implemented in the past few years, particularly as regards labour equality, women's economic independence and access to public services. The Commission nevertheless decided not to present a new strategy to follow the EU Strategy for equality between women and men 2010-2015. This decision clearly highlights the Commission's lack of interest in this area.

1. Why did the Commission decide not to present a strategy for equality between women and men for the years after 2015?
2. Will it reconsider this decision?