

**Question for written answer E-000716/2016/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Violence against women

On 3 February 2016, a statement by the Council and the Commission entitled 'Ending sexual harassment and violence against women in public spaces' was debated in plenary in Strasbourg.

In Spain, women's and human rights organisations working to combat gender-based violence have spoken out against the Spanish Government's failure to comply with international treaties by not transposing their provisions into national law. One example is Spanish Law 1/2004, which limits the definition of gender-based violence to violence against current or former partners.

The UN has called on Spain to 'extend the preventive, prosecutorial, punitive and protective provisions of the law of 2004 to include (with necessary adjustments) all forms of violence against women as called for by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in its general recommendation No 19 and by the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention.'

How does the Commission monitor compliance by Member States with international treaties?

What joint initiatives can the EU and the UN launch in an effort to tackle gender-based violence more effectively?