

**Question for written answer E-001101/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Francesc Gambús (PPE)

Subject: Disappearance of child refugees

The border and humanitarian crises caused by the mass influx of refugees from Syria and other Middle Eastern countries into the EU have also given rise to a range of problems specifically concerning children. Recent figures show that approximately 10 000 child refugees have disappeared in the EU, either because they have been reunited with their families, because they have run away from refugee centres, or, most worrying and frightening of all, because they have fallen into the hands of human-trafficking networks. This is the consequence of a lack of control and coordination among the various EU Member States.

1. Does the Commission intend to address the serious lack of protection for child refugees?
2. What legislative changes does the Commission plan to introduce in order to synchronise and coordinate existing legislation on the matter in the various Member States, given the current lack of coordination?
3. What steps will the Commission take to combat more effectively criminal gangs who traffic refugees in subhuman conditions, both within and outside the EU's borders?