

**Question for written answer E-001312/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Mary Honeyball (S&D)**

Subject: Action at EU level to counter pro-rape and misogynist groups

The recent controversy surrounding the planned meetings by so-called neo-masculinist and 'pro-rape' leader Roosh V and his supporters has highlighted once again the need for stronger action to combat all forms of violence against women. These events put both public order and women's safety at risk and are a symptom of wider problems in society.

Recent studies have shown that violence against women is prevalent in the EU, as are attitudes that blame women for being victims of sexual violence rather than the men who perpetrate it. It is crucial that a strong message be sent to citizens that the EU does not tolerate the views and behaviour of rape apologists and misogynists like Roosh V.

What steps are being taken to deal with similar cases in future, including possible visa restrictions on people who seek to enter the EU with the intention of inciting violence against women?

When will the EU finally sign and ratify the Istanbul Convention?