

**Question for written answer E-002069/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)**

Subject: Murders of people with albinism in Africa

In Africa – particularly central and eastern Africa – several dozen people affected by albinism are killed each year. It is estimated that over the past few years at least 300 people with albinism have been killed in more than 20 African countries, and that 10 000 people with a melanin deficiency in their skin have fled their homes in fear of their lives.

The countries with the highest numbers of murders include Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, Congo, Nigeria and Burundi, but the worst situation is to be found in Tanzania. In that country alone, more than 50 people have been killed in recent years, primarily for reasons of financial gain. Local people believe that the bodies of albinos have magical powers, and that possessing their body parts brings good luck and prosperity.

This barbaric practice has been ignored by the international community for years. The issue was first brought up in the UN Security Council in 2013. However, international efforts and commitments on the part of the authorities in the countries involved have not yet achieved the desired effects.

With that in mind, is the Commission taking action within the framework of EU development assistance to prevent the barbaric persecution of people with albinism? Furthermore, how is the Commission working with the authorities in African countries to stop the murder and mutilation of albinos once and for all?