

**Question for written answer E-002093/2016  
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)**  
Rule 130  
**Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)**

Subject: VP/HR - Implementation of the EU-CELAC Action Plan in relation to the gender issue

Chapter 7 of the 2015-2017 EU-CELAC Action Plan states that its main objective is to prioritise the gender issue in the context of bi-regional relations. Violence against women and girls is widespread throughout Central and Latin America. Of the 25 countries with the highest rates of femicide worldwide, 14 are in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Given that, thus far, no specific information has been forthcoming regarding the implementation of the Action Plan, and given the urgent need to protect and empower women and girls in the region:

1. What specific measures, initiatives and programmes have resulted from the political will expressed by both regions in the Action Plan to guarantee the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls?
2. Which of the Commission's Directorates-General and which individuals will be responsible for implementing the work programme set out in chapter 7?
3. When will the intergovernmental bi-regional working group referred to in the Action Plan, which will monitor the implementation of the plan and the running of the various seminars, be set up? What format will this working group take? What role will women's organisations play in the seminars?