Question for written answer E-002757/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)

Subject: Gender discrimination at Air France

The French airline company Air France has instructed its women crew members to dress in the manner required by the Iranian Government on flights to Teheran.

The unions consider these measures to strike at women's freedoms, and to constitute an invasion of their privacy. In the face of these criticisms, Air France is to offer those employees who refuse to comply the chance of working on other routes. Despite this option, employees who do not agree will continue to be discriminated against, since the decision will impact on their work; there is also no certainty of this not affecting their future with the company.

Since this situation constitutes a breach of the Treaties and EU regulations (TFEU, CFREU, Directive 2000/78/EC), in view of the EU's commitment to combating all forms of gender-based discrimination and bearing in mind the case law of the ECHR:

- 1. Does the Commission not consider it discriminatory that an airline company such as Air France should require its workers to dress according to the laws of a state that stands accused by the international community of systematically violating women's rights and freedoms?
- 2. Given that sanctions against Iran have been lifted and normal trade relations have resumed, does it not see a need to take concrete steps to ensure respect for EU standards in respect of equality?
- 3. If so, what will these steps be?

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