

**Question for written answer E-003704/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Gathering statistics on sexual violence

Victims of sexual violence, in many cases, do not report abuses, for fear of being stigmatised further. That is why the scale of the problem can seem smaller than it is in reality. In addition, the fact that sexual violence is defined in different ways in different countries may make data impossible to compare from one Member State to the next. We are aware, however, that it is important to have good and reliable data in order to provide a basis for effective measures or legislation, especially at EU level.

1. Does the EU employ a single approach when defining acts of sexual violence in Member States?
2. What will the Commission do to improve statistics in this area?