

**Question for written answer E-007428/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ivana Maletić (PPE)

Subject: Ratification of the Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence

Gender equality is one of the fundamental values of the European Union. The fight against gender inequality and violence against women in the EU has been going on for decades now. One of the most comprehensive international agreements related to this issue is the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. The Convention was presented in 2011, but since then only 12 Member States have ratified it.

Why have so few Member States ratified this Convention? Do mechanisms exist to encourage Member States to formally confirm their participation in the fight against violence against women?