

**Question for written answer E-009138/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Unaccompanied migrant children

Four European daily newspapers have recently published articles on the journeys undertaken by unaccompanied minors who have arrived in Europe. Some 20 000 have arrived in Italy since the start of 2016, and many are left to their own devices following a treacherous journey. This development should be set against the figure of 10 000 unaccompanied minors who have disappeared in the last two years, as reported by Europol at the start of 2016. Priority must obviously be given to protecting these children, particularly against the many criminal groups which prey on them.

How does the Commission assess the efforts made over the last few months to protect unaccompanied migrant children?

Given the urgent nature of this problem, does the Commission intend to take further steps?