

**Question for written answer E-001562/2017  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Elena Valenciano (S&D) and Juan Fernando López Aguilar (S&D)**

Subject: Detention of minors

On 2 March, the Commission unveiled its renewed EU Action Plan on Return. In Recommendation No. 23, the Commission paves the way for the internment of unaccompanied minors for an 'appropriate period' in special detention centres with a view to returning them. Currently, more than 10 000 unaccompanied migrant children remain unaccounted for within the EU. It is obvious that the prospect of internment will do nothing to stop them disappearing. The lack of specific and sufficient protection for minors represents a specific tragedy within the overall human tragedy of the so-called 'refugee crisis'.

1. Does the Commission consider that the detention and internment of children in the EU are compatible with full respect for their fundamental rights, their best interests, the fundamental values of the EU and international instruments such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child?
2. Could the Commission outline what specific measures it is taking to prioritise the family reunification of minors and the relocation procedures from which they can benefit?
3. What is the Commission doing to ensure access to education and psycho-social support for unaccompanied minors?