

**Question for written answer E-003717/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Viorica Dăncilă (S&D)

Subject: Vulnerable adults

Vulnerable adults are physical persons over the age of 18 who are temporarily or permanently in the position of being unable to manage their personal affairs or their property. Most vulnerable adults are elderly people, who are more likely to lose their faculties owing to age-related illnesses. Furthermore, demographic change in Europe has led to an exponential rise in the number of vulnerable adults.

All EU Member States have their own legal frameworks, with differing tools for the protection of vulnerable adults. Even though the Hague Convention contains provisions capable of addressing cross-border problems concerning vulnerable adults, some Member States have not yet ratified it, and this is compromising the protection of vulnerable adults in cross-border situations in the EU.

What steps is the Commission considering with a view to promoting a uniform legal framework within the European Union enabling vulnerable adults to enjoy proper protection in cross-border situations?