

**Question for written answer E-005708/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Doru-Claudian Frunzulică (S&D)

Subject: Statelessness

Stateless people are excluded from the protection, rights and benefits afforded by a nationality. This often creates a so-called 'protection gap', which gives rise to certain political, legal and human rights challenges. It seems that more than 15 million persons worldwide are stateless, of whom over 400 000 live in the European Union. Taking into account the role that the European Union could play in tackling the issue, is the Commission considering whether to set preventing and reducing the scale of the phenomenon of statelessness as a priority?