

**Question for written answer E-001020/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
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Subject: Combating online gender-based violence

On 7 February 2018, the French High Council for Gender Equality (HCE) published a report stating that perpetrators of online violence against women enjoy a 'high degree of impunity'. In June and July 2017, the HCE reported 545 cases of content found to be offensive or threatening or to constitute the sexual harassment of women; in only 7.7% of those cases was the content in question taken down by Facebook, Twitter or YouTube.

Yet these platforms are perfectly capable of removing content which is at odds with their ethical charters and conditions of use: in response to criticism, the net giants stepped up their efforts to remove more effectively content regarded as being terrorism-related or as constituting incitement to radicalisation. This led, in May 2016, to the Commission and Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Microsoft reaching agreement on a code of conduct intended in particular to encourage these companies to review notifications of illegal content within 24 hours.

Taking its cue from the EU measures to combat terrorism-related online content, how does the Commission intend to cooperate with internet companies to halt the spread of gender-based online violence and sexual harassment?