

**Question for written answer E-001031/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Daniele Viotti (S&D)

Subject: GSP+ and women's rights in Pakistan

GSP+ concessions are given by the EU on the basis of a number of guarantees, including the protection of core human and labour rights, by the beneficiary State. One of the obligatory conventions is CEDAW (the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women).

Pakistan appears to be breaching CEDAW in a number of ways, most of which the Commission has not mentioned in its GSP+ report of January 2018. On a legal level, Pakistani women are still discriminated against in family law (including marriage, divorce, and custody rights). They also lack protection of any kind in employment legislation. As a result, women are barred from the work force and are forced to occupy a subservient position in family relations.

Given that the Pakistani Government has yet to suggest any improvements in these areas, why did the Commission omit this information from its report?

What steps will the Commission take to encourage legal reforms in Pakistan, specifically in relation to gender equality?