Question for written answer E-001473/2018/rev.1 to the Commission Rule 130 Dominique Martin (ENF)

Subject: Wearing of the Islamic headscarf at the Commission

On 14 March 2017, the Court of Justice of the European Union delivered two judgments in cases concerning the wearing of the Islamic headscarf in private companies in the EU. Companies are entitled, subject to conditions, to ban the wearing of headscarves by their employees. In France and Belgium, public-sector employees are not permitted to wear religious emblems or clothing in the workplace. As for the situation in schools, a number of European countries have made it unlawful for students or teachers to wear emblems or clothing that display religious affiliation.

1. What is the Commission's position in respect of its staff in European schools and pre-school facilities: are teachers and childcare workers permitted to wear Islamic headscarves at work?

2. More generally, what about EU officials: can they wear Islamic headscarves in the workplace?

3. Is there a rule on children and students wearing Islamic headscarves in European schools and pre-school facilities?