

**Question for written answer E-003218/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Child labour and European Union imports

The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that 152 million children around the world are exploited. Worldwide, inequality is growing and the number of child victims of forced labour is rising. This sad state of affairs caused the governments of 193 countries to commit to 91 pledges on 14 November 2017 on ending the use of child labour.

The European Union pledged to implement its revised Guidelines on protecting the rights of the child, even though it still continues to procure goods from outside the EU that are produced in sectors known to be the worst offenders when it comes to the rights of the child (ready-to-wear, minerals, etc.). What is more, having failed to hit the targets initially set for 2016, these have now been pushed back to 2030. These failings beg the following questions.

- 1) From which countries employing child labour does the EU import goods?
- 2) What figures does the Commission have for these imports in particular (quantity of goods imported, sectors concerned, size of financial flows, etc.)?
- 3) Which countries that have the same sectors of activity, but do not allow child labour, could serve as alternative sources of supply?