

**Question for written answer E-001728/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Nessa Childers (S&D)

Subject: EU election observer databases

Irish Aid has recently organised a Public Competition for Election Observers which did not include any form of equality monitoring, determined that disability was ineligible as a criterion for appeal, did not offer any accommodation for disabled candidates, and did not take into account the recommendation data for election observers held by the EU.

On the subject of election observation, could the Commission point to the specific obligations under EU law which Member State authorities are bound to respect?

Can the Commission advise on minimum standards of legal compliance in the area of equality in the case of individual election observation bodies in jurisdictions such as Ireland which state that legal protections do not apply to volunteers?

Finally, as Member States must ensure that any nominees for service on EU election observation missions are appropriately registered with the EU, can the Commission state whether it offers any training or advice to national authorities which, as in the Irish case, have not taken account of the EU Election Observer Profile Data when making their selections of new observers?